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# Daily Report

# Near East & South Asia

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## Near East & South Asia

*FBIS-NES-89-173* *8 September 1989*

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## Algeria

### Mubarak Arrives in Algiers From Dakar 7 Sep

*NC0709164089 Cairo MENA in Arabic*
*1600 GMT 7 Sep 89*

[ Text] Algiers, 7 Sep (MENA)—President Muhammad Husni Mubarak arrived in Algiers from Dakar this evening at the beginning of a friendly working visit. The visit comes at the invitation of Algerian President Chedli Bendjedid.

### Mubarak To Raise Lebanese Issue

*NC0709191089 Cairo MENA in Arabic*
*1815 GMT 7 Sep 89*

[Text] Algiers, 7 Sep (MENA)—Following his arrival in Algiers this evening, President Husni Mubarak told correspondents that Algeria is a fraternal country which is dear to Egypt and that both countries have been bound by strong ties for a long time.

He said: My visit to Algeria this time is a very short working one. I have come to see President Chadli Bendjedid who is a friend and dear to us. The Algerian people are also very dear to Egypt within a framework of brotherhood and friendship. He added: We will discuss various Arab and African issues.

Asked whether the Lebanese issue will be among the topics that he will discuss with the Algerian president, President Mubarak said: I had talks with President Bendjedid in Belgrade. The Lebanese situation concerns us and President Bendjedid is a member of the Arab Tripartite Committee. The committee will continue its work, God willing. I wish it success and hope that there will be cooperation with all the parties concerned with the Lebanese issue so that we may reach a solution after these years of conflict and fighting which pose a danger to us in the region.

### Bendjedid Receives Mubarak

*LD0709195489 Algiers Domestic Service*
*in French 1800 GMT 7 Sep 89*

[Excerpt] Political talks between Presidents Chadli Bendjedid and Husni Mubarak have opened this afternoon at al-Mithak residence. The Egyptian president, who is also chairman of the OAU, is on a friendly working visit to Algiers following an invitation by President Chadli Bendjedid. Mr Mubarak's plane landed at 1600 this afternoon at Houari Boumediene airport. [passage omitted]

### Bendjedid, Mubarak Hold Talks

*LD0709224989 Algiers Domestic Service*
*in Arabic 2200 GMT 7 Sep 89*

[Excerpt] Political talks began this evening in Jenane al-Mithak in Algiers between President Chadli Bendjedid and President Muhammad Husni Mubarak of Egypt, who is also the current chairman of the OAU [Organization of African Unity].

The talks were attended on the Algerian side by the director of the Presidential Office, the secretary of state at the Foreign Ministry in charge of Maghreb affairs, and the secretary general of the presidency of the republic.

On the Egyptian side, the talks were attended by the secretary of state in charge of foreign affairs, the head of the Presidential Office in charge of foreign affairs, and the secretary general of the Presidency of the Republic, and also the ambassadors of the two countries.

After these talks, the Algerian and Egyptian presidents held two rounds of political talks in private in Jenane al-Mithak villa. [passage omitted]

### Mubarak, Bendjedid Resume Talks

*NC0809054689 Cairo Domestic Service*
*in Arabic 0400 GMT 8 Sep 89*

[Text] President Muhammad Husni Mubarak and Algerian President Chadli Bendjedid resumed their talks in Algiers last night over a dinner hosted by President Bendjedid in honor of President Mubarak. The banquet was attended by members of the two official delegations to the talks. The two presidents earlier toured Algiers. The talks dealt with ways to consolidate bilateral relations and Arab and African issues of common interest.

President Mubarak arrived in Algiers yesterday from Dakar after an exloratory visit to both Mauritania and Senegal, where he held talks with the Mauritanian and Senegalese presidents on the dispute between their two countries, its details, and the views of both sides. The visit achieved its goal of containing the crisis between the two countries and it was agreed not to escalate it.

## Egypt

### Mubarak Makes Statement in Dakar Airport

*NC0709131389 Cairo Domestic Service*
*in Arabic 1130 GMT 7 Sep 89*

[Excerpt] President Muhammad Husni Mubarak left Dakar today. He made a statement to journalists before leaving: In my capacity as chairman of the Organization of African Unity [OAU], I visited sisters Mauritania and Senegal to learn about the underlying causes of the problem between the two fraternal countries. I discussed the issue with Mauritanian President Maaouiya Ould Sid' Ahmed Taya in order to arrive at specific concepts which would help the OAU ministerial committee curb the tension and resolve the problem in a way acceptable to both sides. The OAU ministerial committee is due to meet in New York in October.

The President added: I had talks with my brother Senegalese leader Abdou Diouf on this issue. Certain points need further discussion and followup. This will be done

by the OAU ministerial committee. Through cooperation with the two presidents and with goodwill, I hope the committee will produce good results.

President Mubarak had held a closed meeting with Senegalese leader Abdou Diouf in the presidential office in Dakar before leaving for the airport. [passage omitted]

### Islamic Youths Attack Cairo Police Facilities

*JN0709151889 Cairo AL-SHA'B in Arabic*
*5 Sep 89 p 1*

[By Muhammad 'Abd-al-Quddus]

[Text] AL-SHA'B has learned that a group of youths affiliated with Islamic groups has launched an attack with gunpowder and cracker bombs [qanabil barudiyah wa sawtiyah] on several police stations in Cairo. Among these centers were the Cairo security directorate, the state security police bureau in Shubra, and al-'Abbasiyah police station. They were arrested during their attack on Rawd al-Faraj police station.

The security services have imposed a complete news blackout on these incidents. The arrested youths are: Ashraf 'Abd-al-Majid al-Fishawi, Hani Muhammad Mustafa and his brother Hisham Muhammad Mustafa, and Akram Muhammad.

During investigations, the youths admitted that they perpetrated these acts because of the torture of youths in prisons.

## Mauritania

### Mubarak Arrives in Nouakchott for Mediation

*NC0609180389 Cairo MENA in Arabic*
*1645 GMT 6 Sep 89*

[Text] Nouakchott, 6 Sep (MENA)—In statements to newsmen upon his arrival at Nouakchott airport this afternoon, President Husni Mubarak said that Mauritania and Senegal are two friendly states with whom we enjoy strong, solid ties. He noted that he visited Nouakchott three times when he was vice president.

President Mubarak emphasized that it is not difficult to patch up the dispute between Mauritania and Senegal. He expressed confidence that the Mauritanian and Senegalese peoples sincerely desire to resolve the problem with a good spirit. President Mubarak pointed out that disputes can affect development and would lead nations to engage in unnecessary serious confrontations. This, President Mubarak added, would affect nations' standard of living when the Third World countries suffer from development, debt, and currency shortage problems.

Responding to a question, President Mubarak said that the dispute between Senegal and Mauritania is not so complicated and that the problem is not serious. He maintained, however, that cooperation is essential for the solution.

President Mubarak denied that the nonaligned summit had discussed this issue, adding that the dispute is an African one and those involved are Africans. Therefore, he said, why should we involve the summit in the dispute about power and spheres of influence.

To a question about cooperation between Egypt and Mauritania, President Mubarak affirmed that bilateral cooperation continues. He added that Egypt, which hosted the first Arab-African summit, will endeavor to develop and promote this cooperation.

[In a Nouakchott-datelined item, Paris AFP in English at 1502 GMT on 6 September adds that Mubarak "warned against letting little problems grow bigger. 'Armed conflict is very dangerous and destructive and is to be avoided at all costs,' he said, urging calm on both parties."]

### Mubarak Comments on Talks

*NC0609200189 Cairo MENA in Arabic*
*1815 GMT 6 Sep 89*

[Text] Nouakchott, 6 Sep (MENA)—President Muhammad Husni Mubarak left the Mauritanian capital at 1630 Nouakchott time, 1930 Cairo time. He was seen off at the airport by Mauritanian President Maaouiya Ould Sid'Ahmed Taya. He was also seen off by senior Mauritanian officials and members of the Arab and foreign diplomatic corps in Nouakchott.

In predeparture statements, President Mubarak said: I had a very good meeting with President Maaouiya. We are not drawing up an Egyptian plan to solve the dispute. We only listen to briefings from our brothers Maaouiya and Abdou Diouf on their views so that we help the two sides work out a solution. President Mubarak added: The talks were held in an extremely good spirit, and I hope, God willing, that we will attain good results to start to solve the problem. Mauritania and Senegal are fraternal neighboring countries, and it is our responsibility to help as much as we can.

To a question, President Mubarak said that there are ideas here and there for solving the dispute. He said: I wish these ideas would be set up to produce good results.

On the priorities of African problems, President Mubarak said: The first priority is the issue of the Mauritanian-Senegalese dispute, which I hope it will not be a problem due to the good intentions of Presidents Maaouiya and Abdou Diouf.

President Mubarak expressed confidence that endeavors will continue until the situation becomes calm. He pointed out that there are other African issues, including the issue of South Africa and Namibia and that of African debts, which should be followed up continually.

To a question about the border dispute between Mauritania and Senegal, President Mubarak called for not exaggerating this border dispute.

The Mauritanian president said his talks with President Mubarak were generally good. He added that President Mubarak will continue his talks in Dakar. He expressed his hope that, God willing, a just and suitable solution acceptable to both sides will be achieved soon. He noted that the issue is quite sensitive and that there is no other alternative but to hold negotiations for the sake of finding a solution because the circumstances are good and suitable.

Commenting on reports that the Senegalese press has not stopped the media campaigns, President Maaouiya said there are national newspapers in Senegal. [sentence as received]

For his part, President Mubarak said that the Senegalese president is able to stop the media campaigns because the issue first and foremost deals with the supreme national interest, which dictates that such problems should be averted. He added: I believe that President Abdou Diouf will not hesitate to do that.

To a question about the presence of foreign factors involved in the Mauritanian-Senegalese dispute, the Mauritanian president said many factors have been involved and have led to such a situation and these events and that something must have meant to escalate the dispute.

### Departs Nouakchott for Dakar

*AB0609203589 Libreville Africa No. 1 in French 1830 GMT 6 Sep 89*

[Text] President Husni Mubarak, current Organization of African Unity [OAU] chairman, left Nouakchott, the first stop on his shuttle, about an hour ago, for Dakar, the second stop. The trip is part of his mediation of the conflict between Senegal and Mauritania. According to President Mubarak, the conflict should remain an African affair, but everything should be done to avoid armed confrontation. Here is our correspondent in Nouakchott, Salem Ould Salem:

[Begin Salem recording] We must avoid the possibility of armed confrontation between Mauritania and Senegal. This, in substance, is what the Egyptian head of state, who is also the current chairman of the OAU, said. President Mubarak observed that the persistence of the crisis between Nouakchott and Dakar is adversely affecting daily life in both countries. He said Africa, which is already seriously affected by problems of underdelopment, should concentrate its efforts on unity and solidarity among its peoples. Unity, everywhere, the OAU chairman stressed, is the outcome of peace, and this is what the OAU chairman wants to impress upon the two governments of Dakar and Nouakchott.

The Egyptian head of state is becoming increasingly aware of the complexity of the conflict. He would like to have the cooperation of the heads of state of Mauritania and Senegal to resolve this conflict.

President Mubarak held two rounds of talks with his Mauritanian counterpart, Colonel Maaouya Sid'Ahmed Ould Taya. The Egyptian leader stressed the need to do everything to overcome the conflict between Senegal and Mauritania, a conflict which should remain a pan-African affair, and especially remain an OAU affair, according to President Husni Mubarak. [end recording]

## Sudan

### Government Invites SPLA to Khartoum Conference

*AB0709201089 London BBC World Service in English 1615 GMT 7 Sep 89*

[Text] Somewhat frantic preparations are going on in Khartoum for the big conference called by the new military regime of General al-Bashir to discuss the country's future. It is due to start at the weekend and last a month. The idea is to clear the air and settle some of the thorny issues dividing north and south that have led to years of civil war with the rebel Sudan People's Liberation Army [SPLA]. Since the coup on June 30, the government has made little progress in its attempt to negotiate a settlement with the SPLA, though a cease-fire is still in operation in sourthern Sudan. But now the government is inviting the leader of the SPLA, John Garang, to attend the meeting in Khartoum. From Khartoum, Alfred Tarban telexed this report:

[Begin studio announcer recording] The opening session of the congress takes place on Saturday [9 September] and is expected to bring together 1,200 people. It will be addressed by Sudan's leader, Gen al-Bashir. Colonel Muhammad al-Amin Khalifah, a member of the ruling military council, who is the chairman of the 77-member conference steering committee, told a press conference this afternoon that an invitation has already been sent to the SPLA in Addis Ababa. He said the SPLA leader, John Garang, and his movement should come to Khartoum, listen to the views of other Sudanese on peace, and also make known his own views. He said Garang will be accorded all necessary security guarantees. He added that the government is now waiting for a reply to its invitation.

Col Khalifah said the first stage in the government's peace program has already been accomplished. This was the building of trust and confidence between the SPLA and the government and the elimination of mediators. He said this was achieved in the meeting between the SPLA and the government in Addis Ababa last month. He said the next stage is the holding of an enlarged conference of Sudanese from various parts of the country representing various groups to discuss all issues of dispute and interest in the country. He said the steering committee will be divided into six sub-committees charged with drawing up the agenda.

Col Khalifah said the main issues for discussion will be the role of religion in politics, the identity of Sudan, its system of government, and the distribution of resources.

He believes that, provided outside interests are not brought in, the Sudanese people, including the SPLA, will be able to reach an agreement to bring peace to the Sudan. [end recording]

## Al-Bashir Reaffirms Readiness To Meet Garang

*EA0709180689 Omdurman Domestic Service in Arabic 0430 GMT 7 Sep 89*

[Excerpt] Lieutenant General 'Umar Hasan Ahmad al-Bashir, chairman of the National Command Council, has reaffirmed his readiness to meet Colonel John Garang in any place and at any time. In an interview yesterday with a BBC correspondent covering the Ethiopian area, his excellency said the government believes in a peaceful, negotiated solution to the southern problem. He said that the government had made contact with a number of neighboring states, especially Ethiopia, to enable the two disputing parties to sit at the bargaining table. He pointed out that security and development are two faces of the same coin, and that from the outset the revolution had been interested in finding a solution to the southern Sudanese problem.

Referring to the Nonaligned Movement conference, his excellency said: It is a good opportunity to explain Sudan's viewpoint in [words indistinct], to meet the presidents of participating states, to brief them on Sudanese developments, and to discuss relations between the Sudan and their countries. [passage omitted]

## SPLA Sets Conditions for Khartoum Meeting

*EA0709153889 (Clandestine) Radio of the Sudanese People's Liberation Army in English 1300 GMT 7 Sep 89*

[Text] The official spokesman of the SPLM/SPLA [Sudanese People's Liberation Movement/Army], reacting to the junta's invitation to Dr John Garang de Mabior, SPLM/SPLA chairman and commander in chief, to address the opening session of their 77-man committee, today released a statement to Radio SPLA saying that the chairman and commander in chief would respond positively if the new military junta in Khartoum created the necessary conducive atmosphere. To create such a conducive atmosphere, the junta would need to do the following:

1. Lift the 70-day curfew in Khartoum and lift the state of emergency all over the country;

2. Lift the ban on trade and professional unions and on nonsectarian political parties;

3. Lift the ban on the press and release detained journalists;

4. Release all political prisoners that have not committed crimes of corruption. These include Sayyid Muhammad Uthman al-Mirghani, Mr Eliaba James Surur, Mr Ibrahim Nuqud, Dr Ushari Mahmud, and many others who have not held constitutional posts enabling them to engage in corruption;

5. Release all trade and professional union leaders. These are obviously innocent citizens. These include people like Dr Abdullah Ali Abbas, chairman of the University of Khartoum Lecturers' Union; Makki Abbas Makki, from the Legal Advisers' Union; Ustadh Sadiq al-Shami, from the Bar Association, and many others;

6. Stop political dismissals in the Army, police, prisons, judiciary, diplomatic service, and so on, and reinstate dismissed officers, judges, diplomats, and many others dismissed without the slightest recourse to legal or administrative procedures;

7. Withdraw the list of 90 medical doctors whose dismissal is pending and presently being resisted by the minister of health;

8. Reinstate all women dismissed from public employment such as the judiciary, the duty-free shop corporation, and so on—Judge Aminah Awad being a case in point. These citizens were dismissed for the simple reason that the junta thinks women should not be in such jobs.

9. Release all those sentenced to amputations of limbs, whose court sentences cannot be implemented because of the junta's fear of the domestic and international public outrage at the barbarity. These citizens have languished in jail, some for up to 4 years. Similarly, the state must provide compensation for the 300 or so amputees and fit them with artificial limbs. The junta must scrap from the books Numayri's obnoxious September [1983 Shari'ah] laws that led to such hideous crimes as the state amputating the limbs of its own citizens.

The spokesman concluded by saying that the junta could not expect the SPLM/SPLA leader to address their 77-man committee when Khartoum remained under curfew—70 days as of today, and a record for Sudan—when the country remained under martial law, when innocent citizens were arrested or dismissed daily, when, in short, the junta was unleashing unprecedented state terrorism in our country.

However, if the junta did all of the above, the necessary conducive atmosphere would have been created, and the SPLM/SPLA leader would seriously and positively consider addressing their committee.

## Khalifah Responds to SPLA's 'Preconditions'

*EA0709221189 Khartoum SUNA in Arabic 1755 GMT 7 Sep 89*

[Excerpt] [Passage omitted, including indistinct portions] At the beginning of the news conference, Colonel Muhammad al-Amin Khalifah gave an account of the revolution's journey down the road toward peace, which is its favored option. He said the leadership of the

revolution had placed the issue before the world. It had shown goodwill toward the other side by declaring a cease-fire and an amnesty for all who laid down their arms. It had also agreed that relief operations should continue, and undertook to protect them.

The revolution's efforts to promote the peace process were linked, from the very beginning, to its realization of the need to reconstruct foreign relations, which he described as not having been [word indistinct] to perform their necessary role, and in this respect the leadership [words indistinct] with the neighboring states, followed by the Arab, African, European, and other states and, he stressed, the revolution's initiative evoke full (?cooperation) and support from all sides.

[Word indistinct] the move toward contacting (?the other side)—the movement—he said that in the first few days after its inception, the revolution had sent an envoy to the movement to inform the latter about the revolution's wish for peace. Then a (?high-) level delegation was sent to conduct a dialogue with the movement (?with) Col Muhammad al-Amin al-Khalifah, leading the government delegation in negotiations with the movement.

Referring to the negotiations held between the government and the movement in (?the first) round, Col al-Khalifah said these had been (?of a preliminary nature) to establish some [words indistinct] and the leadership of the revolution it gained an understanding of [word indistinct] would be a way toward solving the issue.

He went on to say that [words indistinct] the government delegation to the first round of negotiations was clear and comprised [words indistinct]. It was agreed that there should be a direct line of contact without [words indistinct]. It was agreed that relief should continue and that it should be protected. [Words indistinct] and continuing the dialogue in [word indistinct] stages.

Replying to a question about the escalation of information from the government and the movement, Col al-Khalifah said the escalation of information did not imply that [words indistinct]: during the round of negotiations we did not agree to halt the information campaigns, but the thing we did (?accomplish) was to stem the bloodshed.

Referring to the conditions set by the movement [word indistinct] for peace as represented by lifting the state of emergency, abrogating the military agreements between Sudan and any other state, and abrogating the Islamic laws, the Command Council member said: We declared from the very start that we would (?not) accept any preconditions. He added: We replied to the movement during our first round of negotiations. We explained to the movement our position on lifting the state of emergency, to the effect that the government would not object if a total cease-fire between the two sides was established.

Regarding the military agreements that he said Sudan had concluded with Egypt and Libya respectively, he said that the primary objectives of these agreements was to protect Sudan's national security, a matter which had nothing to do with the various regimes. He noted that John Garang himself had been one of the supporters of the military agreement with Egypt when he was still an officer in the Army.

Referring to the abrogation of the Islamic laws, he said the leadership of the revolution had put the matter into the hands of the Sudanese people by way of a national dialogue conference. He added that it would be up to them to arrive at a decision on the matter. He said the revolution could not go against public opinion nor dictate laws that the people do not desire.

## Garang Discusses SPLA Arms, Negotiations

*JN0709092089 Kuwait AL-ANBA' in Arabic 5 Sep 89 pp 22, 23*

[Interview with Colonel John Garang, leader of the Sudanese People's Liberation Movement and commander of the Sudanese People's Liberation Army, by Hasan Sati in Addis Ababa; date not given]

[Excerpt] [Passage omitted] [Sati] It is said that the Sudanese People's Liberation Movement [SPLM] and the Sudanese People's Liberation Army [SPLA] began with 120 people and some old military equipment. Now, the SPLA numbers around 40,000 fighters with modern equipment, including missiles. The questions related to this aspect are many. The most important of which is: How did the SPLM manage to pay for these weapons? The second question, which is related to the first, is: If the finances for that number of cadres and these modern weapons came from abroad, would this not influence the freedom of decisionmaking inside the SPLM when the movement is pressured by those who finance it through the use of many cards, which I think you know about?

[Garang] Regarding our beginning, I hope you will correct the figure and add another zero so that it will become 1,200 instead of 120. If you recall, in my previous answer I said that the entry of Battalions 104 and 105 into the jungles marked the beginning of the SPLM. This means we were approximately 1,200 soldiers fully armed with our military hardware, which included G3 rifles, 120-mm and 82-mm mortars, DShK's, 42-mm guns, and RPG-2's and RPG-4's. These are the weapons with which a battalion in the Sudanese Army is armed, and we fled with the equipment of the two battalions.

Therefore, as you see, we did not begin from point zero, but we began with a strong base of weapons and qualified personnel. Since the beginning, we had officers who were trained by, and attended many internal and external courses in the Sudanese Army. I, for example, had 1-year's military training in the United States and spent 3 months in Jubayt. Also, I was the deputy director of military research in the General Command. There are

many like me in the SPLM who attended such courses and who are capable of training the fighters of the SPLM and the SPLA.

This does not mean the way was paved for the SPLM. We faced obstacles in the beginning related to the movement's direction and the nature of its struggle; for example, was the movement separatist or unionist? The first battles fought by the movement were against itself and the separatists in it, and much blood was shed until we resolved the matter and began our activities against the Sudanese Army units.

It was natural for us to look for a partner or a third party to offer us assistance. In this regard, I must point out that the largest foreign aid we received came from Libya, and this is no longer a secret. I visited Libya in 1984 and this was the beginning of intensive SPLM activity. True, the SPLM was formed in 1983, but here I am referring to intensive activity. I visited Libya on 11 April and stayed for 11 days. During that time, I met with Colonel Qadhdhafi and he gave me aid. He also gave aid to al-Sadiq al-Mahdi because we both were fighting Numayri at the time. I found that al-Sadiq al-Mahdi was leading one of the liberation movements that enjoyed Libya's support. There were other movements receiving aid, including the one led by Ahmad Sa'd 'Umar. Incidentally, there were over 30 anti-Numayri Sudanese groups receiving aid from Libya, and the SPLM was one of these groups.

The international black market was another source of arms for us because if you can get money, you can buy anything.

The third source of arms was the weapons we captured during our battles against the Sudanese Army, and these were good in quantity and quality. Currently, we consider the weapons captured from the Sudanese Army our main source. If you take Torit, for example, there were over 3,000 soldiers in the garrison there under the command of a brigadier general. When they all fled to Uganda they were unable to carry their heavy weapons, so they fled with their light weapons, leaving behind the tanks and guns. No country has ever given us tanks except Sudan.

These are simply our armament sources. To avert any suspicion let us repeat that this armament consists firstly of the aid we received from brother Al-Qadhdhafi and then the weapons we seized in considerable quantities from the Sudanese Army. Within 7 months we managed to seize 16 camps in which the Sudanese Army had left all its weapons. These are the two basic avenues through which we financed our battles when we talk about finance in the language of money.

Hence, I can state that this movement is one of the most free liberation movements in the sense that it has not obtained aid from either the Soviets or the Americans. This is exactly the situation that left us outside the equations of reconciliatory solutions which took place and are taking place on the African continent in places such as Angola and Mozambique.

We had full freedom in decisionmaking; we talk to whoever we want and I can go wherever I want. I have recently visited Europe and the United States within the framework of practical exercise of this freedom. Finally, and since we are fighting for liberation, we will not accept being dominated by any foreign power. Had we accepted that, there would have been no reason for us to carry arms.

[Sati] Despite your previous remarks on the freedom of decisionmaking, it is clear that this movement began with oriental tendencies, as exhibited in its alliances in the region. Now I see you are heading west. What is the reason for this major change? What would you say if we asked you to clarify the ideological identity of your movement?

[Garang] Being oriental or occidental is relative. If you are in Khartoum and face the south, the west will be east for you and the east becomes west. East and west depend on where you stand and look. As for talk about the movement's ideological orientation, this has been settled through the previously declared aims of the movement. This movement was established to build the new Sudan. I have said this and I hope to be given the chance to repeat that we launched this movement in order to mold Sudan into a nation. If you seek an ideological description of us, I say we are Sudanese nationalists. We have the freedom of organization and movement. If I am invited to Moscow, I will go there. If I am invited to Washington, Cairo, London, Latin America, or Saudi Arabia, I will go there, too. As for our foreign policy, we are extremely open to others and ready to cooperate with any government or body that displays a readiness or desire to talk to us. We are ready to express our opinion very objectively and this movement cannot be classified as loyal to Moscow or Washington; it is Sudanese, no more and no less.

[Sati] I have learned that in your address to the German Parliament you invited German investors to visit the south and invest there. What do you mean by this invitation?

[Garang] Yes, I extended this invitation not only in Germany but in all areas I visited in Britain and the United States. I said Sudan is suffering from problems. While Sudan has national mineral and agricultural wealth, as well as water resources, it lacks the necessary technology to develop these resources. We cannot develop our country with our bare hands. I told them we are ready for any investment cooperation that would lead to a mutual benefit, because we do not expect anyone to invest in Sudan for no return. At the same time, nobody should exploit us in the name of investment and steal our wealth. We should first sit together and draft an agreement so that each party knows what it will get from the results of the investment. We have oil, but lack the technology to utilize it. There is no option

for me and the Sudanese leaders other than seeking foreign technology. This is the context within which the invitation was made, and it was an invitation for investors in the east and west without exception.

[Sati] Was the invitation personal, or was it extended in the movement's name? If it was in the movement's name, then the question of legitimacy arises. From where did you get that legitimacy? After all, you are only a movement, not a state or government.

[Garang] I believe you agree with me that we are more entitled to extend the invitation than the Khartoum rulers. (He laughs). True, we are a movement, but we represent a large sector of the Sudanese society, and our movement will be a basic part of any formula or structure of rule in Sudan. Also, we as Sudanese, and you as a Sudanese journalist, have the right to talk on behalf of Sudan if we are in a position where we can serve the Sudanese interests. The way to do this is bound by legal procedure, and this is a different story; but to endeavor to achieve Sudan's interests is a right guaranteed for every Sudanese.

[Sati] If you find that such agreements are practically not made with movements but only with governments, will you declare a government?

[Garang] No. I will not declare myself a government. If these things require dealings with a government, there is a government in Khartoum to which they can go. If there is something to be arranged with the movement, then it is all right. But I believe there is no law stipulating that investment dealings can only be made with governments, because investment is investment. You can make an agreement with anyone wishing to invest. If the movement was able to find international companies ready and willing to conclude contractual agreements with it, that would be all right, because this is a guaranteed right for us. If some party insists on dealing only with the government, then it can go to Khartoum to arrange with those who claim to represent the government there.

[Sati] Last May, Numayri said he was ready to enter into an alliance with you to overthrow al-Sadiq al-Mahdi. Will it be possible for you to ally yourself with Numayri if such an alliance is necessitated by the political game?

[Garang] Play with Numayri? (Laughing) No, no. We played before, and Numayri played with us and lost. I do not think I will agree to this again.

[Sati] By virtue of its geographic and historical composition, Sudan is an Arab-African country. Revision of the movement's political and diplomatic activity, however, reveals that this activity ignores the Arab scene and focuses on Africa. Why?

[Garang] As I said, Libya, an Arab country, was the only country that gave us basic military and material aid. I have so far sent three delegations to Egypt at various times. Our policy is to practice diplomatic activity with the individuals and the states that accept us. Libya accepted us, and so we moved toward it; and so did Egypt and Yemen. Although the diplomatic activity seems less in the Arab world, it does not reflect a political stance toward the Arab world; it is only a matter of few opportunities. If I get the chance to send delegations to Kuwait, Saudi Arabia, Jordan, or Syria, I will do it tomorrow. We will immediately respond to any state that accepts our popular movement. As I said, we accomplished some diplomatic activity in the Arab world.

[Sati] Your relations with Egypt appear to be intimate. How were you able to establish them?

[Garang] Our relations with Egypt are old. We sent our first delegation to Egypt in 1986. If our relations with Egypt are intimate, as you described them, then this is good because our policy is to have intimate relations with all neighboring states—Egypt, Libya, Chad, Central Africa, Zaire, Uganda, Kenya, and Ethiopia. These are our neighbors. We did not choose them but found them there. Undoubtedly, you have to deal with your neighbors, because if there is a fire next door, the flames will reach you. I am glad that you are terming our relations with Egypt as intimate because this points to the success of our policy.

[Sati] I used that description because of what was reported about your meeting with President Mubarak here in Addis Ababa and about your bilateral promotion of the efforts that led to the recent peace talks between the salvation revolution government and the movement.

[Garang] I came to Addis Ababa late last July to attend the OAU summit meetings. These are annual meetings which I attend, and during them I make contacts and exercise political pressure. President Mubarak was not the only one I met; I met with other leaders who expressed a desire to meet with me. My meeting with President Mubarak came within this framework. It is true that he indicated the need to establish peace in Sudan, thus expressing Egypt's desire. This is understood by us because Egypt is a neighboring country with which we have historical ties. We are also neighbors in the Nile River basin. Therefore, I understand this stand. We exchanged views on international, regional, and Sudanese affairs. The new military government in Sudan asked President Mubarak to contact me for talks with them. I told President Mubarak that our policy is to talk to anyone who considers himself the government in Khartoum, and the new rulers are no exception to this rule. As for the possibility of agreeing with them, that depends on their aims. We believe in democracy, justice, and equality. We talked to the military and explained our stand to them as I have just explained to you.

[Sati] Did you say you had some preconditions?

[Garang] No, as I said in my last speech we have no preconditions for any meeting.

[Sati] But the fact, as disseminated by the news media and new leaders in Khartoum, is that you always set preconditions for any negotiations.

[Garang] It is those who are in Khartoum who say they want to meet with us without preconditions. This actually reveals a wrong understanding of things. In my opinion they want to say—and I do not want to speak in their name or attribute things to them, and you yourself can ask them—that the clauses of the Koka Dam agreement and the Sudanese peace initiative are conditions. These are actually not preconditions but clauses on the results of talks. Going to Koka Dam took place without preconditions. The same applies to what was reached with the African parties and the Democratic Unionist Party. All these meetings and the resultant clauses and agreements took place without preconditions.

[Sati] How do you assess the results of the recent peace talks?

[Garang] The new leadership asked us to cease fire, to continue relief operations, to halt media campaigns, and to create a channel for continuous contact. Regarding continuous contact, there is no problem. As for relief operations, these were continuing before they seized power. The cease-fire was also going on when they seized power. We are not launching a media campaign. Our radio station is used to inform the Sudanese people of the truth, and we will not stop that. The reason behind the popularity of our radio is that it is based on facts.

We told them that what they offered was not a peace program but measures to implement an agreement. Had we reached a peace agreement, we would have been in a position to talk about the issues they raised. It is obvious that they came without a program but with executive measures to implement a program. They spoke about the measures but did not tell us about the program. As for us, we handed them a program, as is known to all. They returned to Khartoum to study our program or return to us with their program. We are waiting and are ready for discussion.

[Sati] Is there any possibility for holding talks soon?

[Garang] This depends on both parties.

[Sati] What about you?

[Garang] For us, I already have formed a special follow-up committee regarding these talks, and the other side has asked to meet with us, but they still have no program. What is proposed now is our program only. They are studying it, and no one knows how long will this take. I frankly say that the ball is in Khartoum's court, and the moment they ask to meet us, we are ready.

[Sati] For us as media men, it appears that the previous meetings were held through mediations between the two sides. Do you believe the next meeting will need such things?

[Garang] I do not believe so. Even in our first meeting we did not need mediators. True, mediators can provide facilities that facilitate the talks here in Addis Ababa or Cairo. You probably notice that the Ethiopian Government is generously providing us with the suitable atmosphere. But regarding anything else—like mediating to bring our viewpoints closer—we as Sudanese do not need this and are capable of reaching an agreement. We have agreed before in Koka Dam, on 16 November [with the Democratic Unionist Party], and with the African parties. What we need are facilities and the appropriate atmosphere, and by this I mean measures such as visas and a prepared venue, because these things cannot be underestimated.

[Sati] What do you think about holding the next round of talks in Sudan, or holding a session in Khartoum and another in Juba or Torit?

[Garang, laughing] Torit is all right because Juba and Khartoum are the same.

[Sati] What are you looking for? Do you look for facilities or guarantees? Is.... [question incomplete as published]?

[Garang] If the necessary atmosphere and conditions are available, then there is no objection. As you see, Khartoum lacks the appropriate atmosphere to hold the meeting, but if the existing emergency laws and restrictions are removed, then there is no objection to thinking about it. Following the 16 November agreement with the Democratic Unionist Party, we thought of Khartoum and answered positively to such talks, saying we could meet in Khartoum.

We can consider arrangements that will guarantee our meeting in Khartoum. Of course we can meet in Torit (which is under Garang's control) because we in Torit do not arrest people, and the atmosphere there is certainly better than the atmosphere in Khartoum. If discussions are held on staging the next round of talks in Sudan, I definitely will suggest Torit because there are more freedoms there than in Khartoum. [passage omitted]

## Hasan Discusses Political Committee's Duties

*PM0709103689 London AL-SHARQ AL-AWSAT in Arabic 6 Sep 89 p 3*

[Unattributed interview with Brigadier General 'Uthman Ahmad Hasan, member of the National Salvation Revolution Command Council and chairman of the political committee; date not given]

[Excerpts] [Interviewer] May we know the nature of the political committee's work and the objective which it seeks to achieve?

[Hasan] The political committee's duty is to implement the revolution's political programs and supervise the general platforms of unions, federations, and the press. The committee also follows up general policies and peace

plans and efforts in South Sudan, in addition to Sudan's foreign policy, international relations, and any other tasks assigned to it by the Command Council of the salvation revolution. [passage omitted]

[Interviewer] How do see the future of political work in Sudan in light of the revolution's ideas and your present discussions?

[Hasan] We believe that political work should be used in the interests of the Sudanese people and to achieve their aspirations for a dignified life.

[Interviewer] What form of democracy do you seek for Sudan?

[Hasan] The general view of the form of democracy which we seek to achieve is that which provides the most freedom without neglecting the country's higher interests and national security.

We are trying formulate that form of democracy while avoiding the negative aspects of totalitarianism and liberalism—democratic forms previously tried in Sudan.

[Interviewer] The way the unions' memorandum was dealt with was surprising. Instead of engaging in dialogue, the revolution arrested union leaders who signed the memorandum. Would it not have been more beneficial if you had held a dialogue with those unions?

[Hasan] There are no unions. All unions have been dissolved. So there can be no dialogue or talks with unions that actually do not exist. [passage omitted]

[Interviewer] Many reports which cite national reconciliation between the revolution and leaders of the former regime who are now political prisoners. Has any dialogue been held on such a reconciliation, and if so, what are the chances of its success?

[Hasan] The revolution did not take issue with anyone in order to reach reconciliation with him. We have eliminated corruption, and there is no place for corrupt people. The revolution's doors are wide open to whoever wants to serve Sudan and who is sincere and selfless. [passage omitted]

[Interviewer] How would you assess the situation in south Sudan and the prospects for the peace process there?

[Hasan] Peace is essential and is the only solution to the problem of south Sudan. This, in order to spare innocent lives and remedy the deteriorating economic conditions. For the Sudanese people's sake, we must achieve a complete and just peace, because this would serve the interests of both sides and other sides not involved in the conflict but affected by it. In short, peace is essential and must be established.

## Al-Bashir Appoints Darfur Deputy Governor

*EA0709132289 Omdurman Domestic Service in Arabic 0430 GMT 7 Sep 89*

[Summary] Lieutenant General 'Umar Hasan Ahmad al-Bashir, chairman of the National Salvation Revolution Command Council and prime minister, has issued a decree appointing Awad Muhammad Ibrahim, deputy governor of Darfur Region.

## NSRCC's Al-Tahir Returns From Libya

*EA0709134489 Khartoum SUNA in English 0910 GMT 7 Sep 89*

[Text] Khartoum, 7th September— The member of the National Salvation Revolutionary Council, Brig al-Tijani Ahmad al-Tahir, returned here yesterday from Tripoli, Libya, after he took part in the 20th anniversary of the Libyan 1st September Revolution celebrations. Speaking to reporters upon arrival at the airport, Brig al-Tahir expressed satisfaction over the visit's outcome, saying that he had inspected during the visit a number of the development projects and factories in Libya.

## Official Meets Egyptian, Ethiopian Envoys

*EA0609094089 Omdurman Domestic Service in Arabic 1800 GMT 5 Sep 89*

[Text] Colonel Martin Malwal Arop, member of the National Salvation Command Council, deputy chairman of the Political Committee, and political supervisor of Bahr al-Ghazal Region, this morning met in his office at the People's Hall in Omdurman Major General Salih 'Abd al-Asim, the military attache in the Egyptian Embassy in Khartoum, with whom he reviewed relations between the two brotherly countries.

His excellency also met the Ethiopian ambassador to Khartoum, with whom he discussed ways of strengthening and developing relations between the two countries in all fields. In particular, they discussed efforts to achieve peace in a unified Sudan and ways to support reconciliatory efforts to achieve peace in sisterly Ethiopia. They also touched on strengthening and developing cultural relations and the possibility of allotting scholarships in Ethiopian universities and institutes for Sudanese students.

## NSRCC Member Receives Former State Minister

*EA0709194589 Omdurman Domestic Service in Arabic 1700 GMT 7 Sep 89*

[Text] Colonel Bakri Hasan Salih, National Salvation Revolution Command Council [NSRCC] member and member of the security and operations higher committee, received Dr Francis Deng [former state minister] in his office in the People's Hall today. They discussed ways of unifying the internal front. They also discussed efforts to solve the problem of the south and end the state of war and in-fighting between the sons of the single homeland. The meeting also touched on the peace efforts and ways of promoting them.

## Kuwait

### Hijacker of Kuwaiti Airliner Reportedly Arrested

*NC0709163089 (Clandestine) Radio Free Lebanon in Arabic 1545 GMT 7 Sep 89*

[Text] The Abu Dhabi-based newspaper AL-BAYAN affirmed today that the intelligence service of a Gulf state has arrested Lebanese fundamentalist 'Imad Mughanniyah on suspicion of having hijacked the Kuwaiti Boeing 747 airliner in April last year. The paper adds that Mughanniyah has been handed over to the Kuwaiti authorities.

### Minister Denies Report

*NC0809141789 Paris AFP in English 1333 GMT 8 Sep 89*

[Text] Beirut, Sep 8 (AFP)—The prime suspect in last year's hijacking of a Kuwaiti airliner, 'Imad Mughanniyah, has been living in Tehran for several months, security sources in Beirut reported Friday. Mr. Mughanniyah has settled in the Iranian capital with his family, the sources said, following a Kuwaiti denial of reports that the Lebanese Shiite fundamentalist had been handed over to the authorities there.

Kuwait's information minister, Shaykh Jabir Mubarak al-Hamad described the report as "totally mistaken."

A United Arab Emirates newspaper, AL-BAYAN, reported Thursday that Gulf security authorities had arrested Mr. Mughanniyah, alleged to have been behind the Kuwait Airways hijack as well as terrorist attacks in Lebanon and Europe. AL-BAYAN did not specify in which Gulf state the arrest was made, but reported that he been handed over to Kuwaiti authorities.

Mr. Mughanniyah was believed to have been responsible for the hijacking of a Kuwait Airways 747 in April 1988 during which hijackers killed two passengers before surrendering the plane in Algiers after a 16-day ordeal. The hijackers had demanded the release of militants held in Kuwait in connection with a string of bomb attacks against U.S., French and Kuwaiti installations here.

Mr. Mughanniyah's brother-in-law is believed to be one of the detainees in Kuwait.

## PDRY

### UAE Paper Interviews Nu'man on Reform, Unity

*JN0309183489 Abu Dhabi AL-ITTIHAD in Arabic 2 Sep 89 p 5*

[Interview with Yasin Sa'id Nu'man, chairman of the Council of Ministers of the People's Democratic Republic of Yemen, conducted by Mahbub 'Ali in Aden—date not given]

[Excerpts] ['Ali] You have recently announced your decision to carry out a comprehensive political and economic reform. How do you view reform, and what are the desired results?

[Nu'man] Thank you for beginning the interview with this important question on the issue of reform. In fact, we began reforms in 1986, immediately after the 13 January events. The Yemeni Socialist Party [YSP] Central Committee dealt with the party, economic, and government issues, which were directly linked with our ideological and educational work and with the activities of the other specialized organs in the educational areas. It also dealt with the overall theoretical and practical matters that have accompanied our experience since the victory of the revolution, the achievement of national independence on 30 November 1967, and the corrective step taken on 22 June 1969, including the writing of the critical and analytical document and the convening of the party's general congress.

In fact, several questions were posed within the party, and a lengthy dialogue followed and spread among the masses. This continued dialogue crystallized the pressing need to apply a real and comprehensive reform within the society—a reform which would seek a solution to the system's problems and difficulties from within the system itself, because there are still many factors within this system that have not yet been used in the best way. Failure to use them was due to intrinsic factors that had nothing to do with theoretical bases. It was due to intrinsic aspects and objective factors. Sometimes circumstances were also complicated and difficult.

This is what has prompted us to present the principal trends and axes of reform to the party members and the masses alike in order to enrich them with discussions, remarks, and proposals. We did not close the door of discussion on reform by a government decision when we decided to launch the reform. Instead, we allowed the party members and the masses to participate in the extensive discussions to enable them to tackle every small and big issue in life and within the society as well as the difficult and complicated results of the past stage in order to predict future possibilities through a clear and collective vision.

Hence, our concept of comprehensive reform means seeking solutions for the problems of the system from within by using all the available potentials, which the past period had not enabled us to mobilize to resolve the economic, social, and political problems.

We affirm that the reform we want is represented in our determination to use and mobilize all the people's national efforts and to reformulate the national democratic alliances, which, if used in the proper way, will contribute to the development of the society and will achieve prosperity for the homeland and the people. This is the reform we want and the goals we want from reform through our future steps. [passage omitted]

['Ali] What steps have you so far made regarding the investment of the discovered oil fields, and also regarding gold?

[Nu'man] Oil was discovered in Shabwah and gold in Wadi Hadun in Hadhramaut in cooperation with the

USSR. The discovered oil fields are currently being developed and 220 km of pipelines are being laid down to Bi'r 'Ali in Shabwah on the Arabian Sea. The line is expected to be completed this year. Work on these projects is proceeding in accordance with the agreed plan. There are other companies prospecting for oil in other areas of the Republic, and their work is proceeding normally.

['Ali] In the field of economic integration between the two parts of the Yemeni homeland, what is the extent of these projects' contribution to achieving tangible progress on the road to realizing Yemeni unity?

[Nu'man] Yemeni unity is one of the most important major objectives which we spare no effort to achieve. We can say that along with our brothers in the northern part, we exert continuous efforts to achieve unity. Although the existing joint projects between the two parts are limited, we still have big resources in this field. There is a 6-year-old joint project to exploit natural resources. We hope that it will soon yield good results. There are also joint projects between the two parts in the fields of tourism and land transport. Another project was recently carried out to exploit oil and natural resources in the border areas. Work in this project began after a company was chosen to carry out the survey and prospecting work. We can say that we have made good progress in this regard. There is also another joint project for electrical linkage between the two parts. At the same time, we are seriously studying the establishment of several other joint projects.

['Ali] It is always noted that the steps of the march of unity between the two parts of the Yemeni homeland ebb and flow to a point where sometime it seems that unity is very near and sometimes the march of unity retreats with the retreat of waves.

[Nu'man] The truth is that any great action on the level of the people's aspirations and the homeland's dreams faces obstacles and difficulties on the road. These difficulties could be internal or external. However, still, they are hindering obstacles. We have great duties and a cause that is a very dear objective that the people aspire to achieve. This unity cannot be achieved with a magic wand. We make daily achievements in the field of unity; thus, we surmount the obstacles facing the fulfilling of the Yemeni people's dream. Along with our brothers in the northern part, we are paving the way for the true circumstances to achieve unity. We believe that we are proceeding normally to guarantee that unity will last forever through realistic, practical, and carefully studied steps.

All the steps we took in this regard and all unity achievements scored recently—particularly those related to free movement of citizens between cities of the two parts and the establishment of the joint project for exploiting oil—confirm that we are heading in the right direction, which will ensure the success of our steps and bring closer the day in which the sun of Yemeni unity will shine all over Yemen.

['Ali] What are the new steps expected to see light within the context of these joint unity efforts?

[Nu'man] We constantly believe that we must search for new fields to achieve unity and that we should not stop at a specific level of achievement and just praise the steps we have scored until they lose their appeal. Life always presents broad fields for us, and the future ushers in good news.

The future steps in our action must include new fields for economic action, particularly regarding the setting up of the economic base for the state of unity. I believe it is high time for the Supreme Yemeni Council to meet to discuss all future unity issues and steps between the two parts of the homeland.

['Ali] In your opinion, what is the ideal solution for the Lebanese crisis, which is exasperating following the recent developments, the threats of intervention, and U.S. threats?

[Nu'man] Lebanon is in fact going through difficult situations. We thought that the extraordinary Arab summit resolution to set up a tripartite committee was a good step in the search for a detailed discussion of the problem. Regrettably, the bad and saddening news we began to hear recently made us more convinced that the ideal solution is for the Arab tripartite committee to continue and for all sides to fully realize that the partition of Lebanon is a very dangerous thing.

We believe that all attention must be focused and efforts intensified to get Israel out of Lebanon. This, in our opinion, is the important question on which all Arab states must wager. The Lebanese themselves are responsible for carrying out the main task—to save what is left of Lebanon from the dangers of destruction and partition.

In our opinion, the proposals made by the tripartite committee as a basis for resolving the crisis with the different sides constitute a good basis. We believe that dialogue must continue because the current situation is dangerous. The committee still has a big opportunity to continue its efforts and endeavors to reach an agreement among all Lebanese sides.

['Ali] Between the extraordinary summit in Casablanca and the coming ordinary summit in Riyadh, how do you assess the Arab move to strengthen the Palestinian peace march?

[Nu'man] The heroic intifadah [uprising] of the Palestinian masses in the occupied territory has indeed provided the Palestinian cause with a great historic opportunity.

Without doubt, the leadership of the Palestinian revolution has very wisely managed to boost the Palestinian

question internationally. Establishment of the Palestinian state was a major step to restore unity to the Palestinian revolution, which now became—under the leadership of the PLO, the sole legitimate representative of the Palestinian Arab people—an important factor in the achievement of just peace in the Middle East. It also became an important factor internationally. This is demonstrated by the international support for and extensive recognition of the independent Palestinian state; the number of states that recognize it is greater than the number of states that recognize the enemy.

In my opinion, these main factors constitute the basis for the unified Arab stand toward this vital and important cause—the cause of the militant Palestinian Arab people. Undoubtedly, the coming phase will pile up more factors for the benefit of the Palestinian cause.

['Ali] You recently visited Saudi Arabia. What results were achieved? And was the visit made within the context of a new tour you plan to make to the states in the region?

[Nu'man] Our visit to Saudi Arabia was in fact made within the context of a plan for external moves approved by the [YSP] Political Bureau and the Council of Ministers. We discussed with the brothers in Saudi Arabia a number of subjects of interest to both fraternal countries and a number of important bilateral issues.

We can say that the results of the visit were positive and good and that they will indeed open broad horizons for developing relations between the PDRY and Saudi Arabia.

This is the answer to the first part of your question. Regarding our future visit, we indeed plan to visit a number of fraternal Arab states. We plan to visit the United Arab Emirates and Kuwait, and this will take place in due time.

['Ali] When do you plan to resume diplomatic relations with the United States? Are there any contacts between officials of both countries?

[Nu'man] Actually, the subject is still under discussion. In this regard, we would like to assert that we are interested in having relations with all countries in the world with the exception of Israel and South Africa. Regarding relations with the United States of America, I can say that if the reasons that led to the severance of relations with the United States are no longer there, then there is no reason for continuing severance of these relations. We are currently seriously studying the subject.

## Officials Respond to Reports on Factory Blast

### INA Cites Embassy Statement

*JN0709171489 Baghdad INA in Arabic*
*1610 GMT 7 Sep 89*

[Text] London, 7 Sep (INA)—In a statement today, the Iraqi Embassy in London denied a report published yesterday by the British newspaper THE INDEPENDENT and carried by news agencies concerning an explosion in one of Iraq's military factories on 17 August. The paper alleged the explosion resulted in the deaths of 700 people, including a number of Egyptian experts.

The embassy said in its statement: In the afternoon of 17 August, fire broke out in a storage tank containing a highly inflammable petroleum byproduct at a factory south of Baghdad. Fire brigade and civil defense teams were able to control the fire. The incident occurred at a site where explosives—which were used for civilian purposes—were on board a carrier that was on its way to the construction site of a dam in northern Iraq. This resulted in an explosion that killed 19 firemen and civil defense personnel. The explosion also smashed the windows of passing buses and nearby offices, resulting in mostly minor injuries.

The statement said that all of the victims were of Iraqi nationality and that it took firemen and civil defense personnel only hours to extinguish the fire and bring the situation under contol. The statement adds: The investigation has shown that the cause of the fire was the high temperature on that day that resulted in the burning of the inflammable petroleum material. The material damage was not great, the statement adds. This is in addition to the fact that there were no Egyptian citizens among those killed as THE INDEPENDENT reports.

The Iraqi Embassy statement states that there is no plan to develop Condor missiles in cooperation with any other state, including Argentina. The statement says: The purpose of mentioning Argentina in the newspaper's report is to stir up British public opinion against Iraq because the tense relations between Argentine and Britain are well-known.

The Iraqi Embassy statement notes that Iraq has proven that it possesses the technology to manufacture medium-range missiles using its own intrinsic capabilities, capabilities which Argentina does not possess at present.

### MENA Reports Denial

*NC0709141689 Cairo MENA in English*
*1152 GMT 7 Sep 89*

[Text] Cairo, Sept 7 (MENA)—An official military source today affirmed that no comment was made by a military source, as reported by foreign news agencies and newspapers, on an explosion in a brotherly Arab country.

The source affirmed that "Al-Ma'adi" Military Hospital did not receive any injured Egyptians or Arabs from any Arab country during the last month as reported by news agencies.

### Hamdun Discusses Explosion

*JN0809061089 Manama WAKH in Arabic*
*0530 GMT 8 Sep 89*

[Text] Washington, 7 Sep (WAKH)—Nizar Hamdun, Iraqi Foreign Ministry under secretary, has denied British press reports of a large number of victims in an explosion that occurred recently in an Iraqi weapons factory.

The newspaper THE INDEPENDENT claimed that an explosion occurred in a military factory in southern Iraq on 17 August and resulted in the deaths of 700 people, including a number of Egyptian experts.

In a statement carried by the Voice of America, the Iraqi official explained that the incident resulted in the deaths of around 19 people only. He added that the incident is a normal, limited incident similar to other incidents that have taken place in many countries in the world.

He described the reports on this incident as inaccurate and very exaggerated.

Hamdun denied that his country has relations with any other country regarding manufacturing or developing missiles or weapons as mentioned in the reports. He said that Iraq relies on its own resources to develop and manufacture arms.

He also denied that those wounded or killed in the incident included any Egyptians.

## Ramadan Wraps Up Visit to Nonaligned Summit

### Iranian Stance Assailed

*PM0709102489 London AL-SHARQ AL-AWSAT in Arabic*
*6 Sep 89 pp 1-2*

[Zaki Musa Shihab report: "Taha Yasin Ramadan Tells AL-SHARQ AL-AWSAT in Belgrade: Direct Negotiations With Iran Precondition for Discussing Resolution 598"]

[Excerpts] Iraqi First Deputy Prime Minister Taha Yasin Ramadan has announced that Iran's refusal to sit down directly with Iraq is hampering the progress of negotiations between the two sides and preventing the achievement of permanent peace in the region. He emphasized that none of Security Council Resolution 598's clauses would be discussed before the two sides sat down directly at the same table.

In an exclusive statement to AL-SHARQ AL-AWSAT in Belgrade, Ramadan said that the Nonaligned summit's

proceedings over the past 2 days had been characterized by coordination and understanding among most members. [passage omitted]

He added that the fact that a large number of states raised the issue of Iraqi-Iranian negotiations proved their eagerness for peace in the region to benefit the peoples of various particular states and the world's peoples as a whole, since what is currently allocated for war will be allocated to peace.

He said that the Nonaligned Movement supports direct negotiations and is working to boost them. But these efforts face Iranian obstacles when it comes to direct negotiation.

He pointed out that Iran had agreed to direct negotiations on 8 August 1988 when it accepted the statements by UN Secretary General Javier Perez de Cuellar.

Taha Yasin Ramadan, who heads Iraq's delegation to the Nonaligned summit, emphasized that none of Security Council Resolution 598's clauses will be discussed before the two sides sit down directly at the same table, because the constant rejection of that formula means that Iran has no sincere intention or peaceful desire to achieve a final and comprehensive solution to the crisis between the two countries. [passage omitted]

## Issues Statement Upon Return

*JN0809060489 Baghdad Voice of the Masses in Arabic 0400 GMT 8 Sep 89*

[Text] Taha Yasin Ramadan, Revolution Command Council member and first deputy prime minister, returned to Baghdad last night after heading the Iraqi delegation to the ninth conference of the heads of state or government of the Nonaligned Movement, which concluded in Belgrade yesterday.

In a statement to INA upon arrival, the first deputy prime minister expressed satisfaction over the outcome of the Belgrade summit. He also confirmed the conferees' positive and deep understanding regarding the Iraq-Iran war and the need to achieve a just, comprehensive, and permanent peace between Iraq and Iran according to Resolution 598 in all its clauses.

The first deputy prime minister also confirmed the positive stand toward other Arab issues, including the Palestine question and the Lebanese question, and the importance of the sovereignty and independence of Palestine and Lebanon in guaranteeing peace in the region. He also praised the role played by Yugoslavia in arranging and directing the summit, and he praised the resolutions and recommendations adopted.

The delegation included Tariq 'Aziz, deputy prime minister and foreign minister.

## 'Aziz, Shevardnadze Exchange Congratulatory Cables

*JN0809103489 Baghdad INA in Arabic 0840 GMT 8 Sep 89*

[Text] Baghdad, 8 Sep (INA)—Tariq 'Aziz, deputy prime minister and foreign minister, and Soviet Foreign Minister Eduard Shevardnadze have exchanged congratulatory cables on the occasion of the 45th anniversary of the establishment of diplomatic relations between the two friendly countries.

Following is the text of the two cables:

Mr Eduard Shevardnadze, Soviet foreign minister:

I am pleased to take the opportunity on the occasion of the 45th anniversary of the establishment of diplomatic relations between our two countries to convey to you, dear comrade, our best wishes and congratulations.

The previous years have confirmed the strength and depth of the relations of friendship and fruitful and constructive cooperation between our two countries and peoples. These relations were built and developed on the strong and deep base of the Iraqi-Soviet Friendship and Cooperation Treaty signed in 1972.

On this occasion, I would also like to affirm to you Iraq's interest in strengthening and entrenching these ties with your friendly country in a manner that will serve the interests of our countries and bolster their roles in the joint endeavor of achieving progress, peace, security, and stability in the whole world.

Dear comrade, please accept my best wishes of success.

[Signed] Tariq 'Aziz, deputy prime minister and foreign minister of the Republic of Iraq
[Dated] Baghdad, 8 September 1989

Comrade Tariq 'Aziz, deputy prime minister and foreign minister of the Republic of Iraq:

Dear comrade, please accept my sincere congratulations on the occasion of the 45th anniversary of the establishment of diplomatic relations between the Soviet Union and Iraq.

During the past years, traditions of mutual respect and trust were strengthened in the relations between our two countries. Fruitful cooperation based on mutual benefit was also strengthened. The joint desire to continue to strengthen Soviet-Iraqi relations is based on the strong foundation of the Friendship and Cooperation Treaty signed in 1972.

I am confident that the relations of friendship between the Soviet Union and Iraq will develop in the future in all directions and will be strengthened for the benefit of the Soviet and Iraqi peoples and for the benefit of peace and justice in the Middle East and the whole world.

Please accept my greetings and best wishes of success.

[Signed] Eduard Shevardnadze

[Dated] Moscow, 8 September 1989

## Indonesian Energy Minister Visits Baghdad

### Kartasasmita Arrives

*JN0709142089 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1350 GMT 7 Sep 89*

[Text] Baghdad, 7 Sep (INA)—Indonesian Mining and Energy Minister Ginanjar Kartasasmita arrived in Baghdad at noon today on a brief visit to Iraq. The Indonesian minister will hold talks with Iraqi Oil Minister 'Isam 'Abd-al-Rahim al-Jalabi on oil issues.

### Meets Al-Jalabi, Departs

*JN0709171889 Baghdad INA in English 1630 GMT 7 Sep 89*

[Text] Baghdad, Sept 7, INA—Mr. Ginanjar Kartasasmita, Indonesian minister of mining and energy, left here today after a short visit to Iraq.

During the visit, Mr. Kartasasmita met with Mr. 'Isam 'Abd-al-Rahim al-Jalabi, oil minister, and discussed with him the agreement reached by oil ministers of the Organization of Petroleum Exporting Countries (OPEC) held in Belgrade on the sidelines of the Non-aligned summit.

The two ministers were also reported to have discussed bilateral relations and unifying attitudes among OPEC member states.

## Further Reaction to Attacks From Jordan

### Shamir Interviewed on Attacks

*TA0709181389 Jerusalem Television Service in Arabic 1700 GMT 7 Sep 89*

[Interview with Prime Minister Yitzhaq Shamir by Yoni Ben-Menahem, Yehezqel Ya'aqobi, and Shlomo Ganor; in the studio, date not given—recorded in Hebrew with Arabic subtitles]

[Excerpts] [Shamir, monitored in progress] The recent events [on the Jordanian border] require caution and alertness. The IDF [Israel Defense Forces] is looking into the recent events there.

[Ganor] What do you expect Jordan to do to prevent the recurrence of these incidents, which have become increasingly frequent?

[Shamir] First of all, they must prevent them. It is their responsibility, the responsibility of the Jordanian authorities.

[Ben-Menahem] Are these events related to the attempted rapprochement between Jordan and the PLO?

[Shamir] I hope they are not, although it is possible that as a result of a certain improvement in the relations between Jordan and the PLO, the PLO people are allowed greater freedom of action in Jordan. Such a result is certainly possible. We hope that the Jordanian authorities are not interested in such a development.

[Ganor] What if they are?

[Shamir] Well, then we will have to reconsider our tone.

[Ganor] Mr Shamir, some people consider the initiative that you presented 4 months ago as being at a dead end. What is the present condition of the initiative?

[Shamir] The initiative is alive and kicking. It has not yet been 4 months, but even if it had been that long, it would not be long enough to determine whether it is applicable. We cast a very serious, thorough, decent, sincere, and—we believe—a very realistic peace proposal into the international and Middle East arena. We are now waiting for the reply of the other side, the Arab side. I assume it is not easy for the various Arab parties to give an affirmative answer, because it requires a change in their way of thinking and their attitude to their relationship with Israel. We, however, have patience. As a rule, a great dose of patience is a necessity in the Middle East if political moves are to be made. We have patience, and we are awaiting their affirmative reply. When such a reply to the principles of our initiative is received, we will be happy to enter talks and negotiations on the details of the initiative's implementation—details which were not specified in it.

[Ya'aqobi] Mr Shamir, judging by all the signs, the United States estimates that the process is stagnating. Do you believe the United States will take steps connected with the PLO to promote the process?

[Shamir] What signs do you see showing that the United States has already decided there is stagnation? I see no such signs. Judging from the letters we have received and the contacts we have had with the U.S. authorities up until recent days, the United States obviously supports our initiative most strongly, insists on it, and does not expect us to propose any new initiatives or any changes in the existing initiative.

[Ya'aqobi] Are there no signs indicating an intention to resurrect Mubarak's 10-point plan?

[Shamir] So maybe they are looking into it. Someone said there are 10 points; there may be 20 other points, too. I do not attribute any special significance to these points, because they pertain to the details of the implementation of the initiative. As I said earlier: We must first of all receive an affirmative answer to the principles of our initiative. When we are met with Arab representatives who agree to these principles, we will enter a debate about the details.

[Ben-Menahem] Mr Prime Minister, will we be surprised if the United States allows 'Arafat to enter the United States and address the UN General Assembly?

[Shamir] We will not be surprised by anything. We may not like it, but the United States in any event conducts talks with representatives of 'Arafat's organization, which can be seen as part of a cooperation or direct contact, to a certain extent. Naturally, however, we would be annoyed by such a move; we would regard it as excessive consideration of an element that we believe to be negative. In our opinion, this element delays peace and, in fact, is opposed to it.

[Ganor] Mr Shamir, you said we should wait for the other party's reply to the peace initiative. On the other hand, we expect attempts to extract the peace process from its present state. For instance there will be a meeting between President Mubarak and Foreign Minister Arens in New York this month, and there will be one with Defense Minister Rabin. Will these meetings suffice to rescue the process?

[Shamir] I would not refer to talks as a rescue, because the process is not a captive in an enemy's dungeon. The initiative is alive, and I believe action should be taken to convince various factors to endorse it, discuss it, and learn it thoroughly. We will take a positive view of any meeting between our people and representatives of Arab and other countries that deals with the initiative. If such talks are held, if our foreign minister confers with Egyptian President Mubarak, peace will certainly be discussed.

[Ganor] You said patience is required. Is there a certain deadline you—as the originator of the Israeli peace initiative—have set down for yourself, at which point you will decide that the initiative is either valid or void?

[Shamir] There is no question of time limits. I will not present myself with ultimatums—that would be ridiculous. Generally speaking, however, I think there is in Israel—and in the entire Middle East—too much irritability and impatience. When people do something, they want immediate results. I believe things have to be weighed and deliberated; it is no use reacting without giving the issue some serious consideration. I keep telling this to my friends and colleagues in Israel.

[Ya'aqobi] Are you referring to the Labor Party?

[Shamir] To all the parties, but mainly the Labor Party, of course. Patience is required. I remember a conversation I had with the late President al-Sadat, who said: We are two ancient nations, and we must remember that in the Middle East, one needs patience. If we have patience, and if no wars break out—he added—we will solve all the problems, even the toughest. And I say also: We need patience and seriousness, but first and foremost, a genuine desire for peace is required.

[Ben-Menahem] While we are on the subject of Egypt and its role in the peace process, Mr Shamir: What significance do you attach to Egypt in the context of the peace initiative, or more specifically, with respect to the Egyptian 10-point proposal?

[Shamir] The peace initiative is an Israeli initiative. It is our work, the work of the Israeli Government, a product of the national unity government. One of the initiative's clauses deals with the desire to change the character of relations between Arab countries and Israel. Of all the Arab countries, Egypt is of course the most important.

There is another clause pertaining to the renewal and strengthening of ties between the countries that cosigned the Camp David accords. Here again, the emphasis is on the importance of Egypt. In my opinion, therefore, Egypt can and must play an important positive role. We will be very glad if Egypt does help with the implementation of our initiative; if it persuades other Arab elements; and if it uses its influence with the Arabs of Judaea, Samaria, and Gaza to obtain their cooperation in the spirit of that initiative.

[Ben-Menahem] Do you believe then, that the 10-point proposal promotes the Israeli peace initiative?

[Shamir] Well, look, as I said, the time for these 10 points, and of the like, will come after we receive an affirmative answer to the principles of the initiative. It will then be the time for all sorts of points of which we will be glad to discuss and enter into specifics. At that time it will be necessary.

[Ganor] Mr Shamir, the rehabilitation of refugees is an important section of your peace initiative. The U.S. President, however, has rejected your appeal to assist that rehabilitation.

[Shamir] It is not true that he has rejected it. I do not know the use of all this unnecessary discussion. The United States does not object to the goal of delivering the people imprisoned in the refugee camps; people who were put there for a reason no one remembers. These people have been condemned to incessant suffering lasting not years, but generations. Several generations have already grown up in these camps. Nowadays we do not see any reason to perpetuate these camps. They must be eradicated, and their residents must be permitted to enjoy humane living conditions. We, little Israel, with the limited resources we have, rehabilitated over 10,000 families several years ago, revolutionizing their living conditions.

There are, however, 45,000 or 46,000 more such families, and they would benefit if the project were continued. We believe the project is totally unconnected to the political solution, nor should it replace the political solution. We think that the solution of this problem would contribute to a better atmosphere. I am positive all the people who reside in these camps would be glad to leave them, to receive proper housing, and to live like human beings—even before a solution is attained to the political problem that they wish so much to solve. There is no contradiction.

Now, the U.S. President believes that this issue must be dealt with simultaneously with all the other peace-related issues. I do not think he is right. We can debate this. I must also say this: The report saying that I asked the U.S. President for money is not true. I asked for no money, and our foreign minister will not ask for money either—not from Baker or anyone else. What we say is this: The solution of this problem of refugee camps can be achieved only through an international financial effort. Israel cannot deal with this problem. We thought, therefore, that the rich industrialized countries should take this very attainable task upon themselves. The issue revolves around $2 billion spread over some 10 years, which means an annual amount of $200 million. Is this a lot for Germany, Japan, or any other country, including the United States? True, the United States is now facing certain budget difficulties. It can be done, however, in the framework of the family of rich industrialized countries. And if we received a letter today that does not endorse our stance, it does not mean the U.S. Administration might not change its attitude in the future.

[Ganor] Will you continue this effort?

[Shamir] Certainly! I raise this issue in all my meetings with politicians. I think it is a humane goal, and I do not believe anyone should object to it. A way to solve this problem should be sought, because it could also contribute to the peace issue and promote an arrangement, although it is not part of one.

[Ya'aqobi] What is your opinion of the criticism voiced by Mr Peres and the Labor Party with respect to what they term an improper procedure: the letter exchange of which they were unaware?

[Shamir] Nonsense, it is part of the peace initiative. I wrote the letter on 15 May—the day after the Israeli

Government's resolution endorsed the initiative—and made a point of explaining this particular clause, because it demands and even allows immediate action without the need to wait for developments in other spheres, such as negotiations with Arabs from the territories or Arab countries. That is all.

[Ben-Menahem] Mr Prime Minister, you have met with a number of Palestinian notables from the territories. Will you continue these meetings?

[Shamir] I will. I have not dealt with the issue in recent days, but no significance should be attached to it, because I will continue with these talks.

[Ganor] Can you share the atmosphere of these talks with us?

[Shamir] Look, they are somewhat like this meeting here.

[Ganor] I mean, are they a monologue or a dialogue?

[Shamir] They are certainly a dialogue. The atmosphere is very friendly, pleasant, and civilized. I explain the gist of our initiative; they ask questions and air their views. We argue a little. The purpose of these talks is to clarify, explain, and naturally, to convince.

[Ben-Menahem] Have you succeeded in convincing some of the notables with whom you have met?

[Shamir] That remains to be seen. They have listened and absorbed, but their final stand, the results of these talks, remains to be seen. It should be remembered that these people live in a certain atmosphere and a certain community. They are subject to the influence and pressure of various factors. These meetings are not negotiations, but rather talks aiming to explain on the one hand, and to understand on the other. I, too, learn from them.

[Ganor] Mr Shamir, how are these meetings with leaders living in the territories—leaders who name the PLO as their representative—different from direct talks with the PLO?

[Shamir] There is absolutely no similarity. These people, whose views may be identical with the PLO's, are not PLO members. They are not subject to the PLO dictates, and they have independent ideas. I talk with them as I would with Arab residents of the region who want a peaceful life.

[Ya'aqobi] Have they presented you with solutions excluding the PLO, solutions in which the PLO is not responsible for a part of the negotiations?

[Shamir] I think today, after the United States committed the grave error of concentrating its entire diplomatic might on talks with PLO representatives, Arab dignitaries—however intelligent and important—cannot be expected to endanger themselves and their position by submitting proposals differing from those of the PLO. From the content of what they are saying, however, and the emphases they make, you can see that their proposals are not entirely identical to what is heard from Tunis.

By the way, the level of people with whom I have met is far higher than the level of the people with whom the Americans have been meeting in Tunis. [passage omitted]

[Ben-Menahem] Mr Prime Minister, what is your impression of the scope and intensity of the incidents in the territories as part of the intifadah [uprising], and what do you think about the defense establishment's conduct these past 20 months vis-a-vis the violence in the territories?

[Shamir] We are aware of our limitations. Israel decided the moment it first encountered this phenomenon not to employ the same kind of measures that were used in Hamah, or—how do you say that place in Syria?

[Ganor] Hamah.

[Shamir] Hamah, yes. Having stipulated this proviso, we determined not to emulate events in Hamah. I believe our defense establishment is functioning excellently.

[Ben-Menahem] In Judaea, Samaria, and Gaza?

[Shamir] Yes. And I also believe it will achieve its goal. It will overcome the violence, not only thanks to its performance, capability, and the correct and wise methods it employs, but also because I believe more and more Arab inhabitants of that area will realize that this violence will not yield anything. It is pointless, it leads to nothing but suffering, torment, and the loss of human lives.

If they truly want to achieve something, if they desire some progress in any respect—political or social—this is not the way. A lot can be achieved with Israel, but only by way of negotiation.

The initiative we have offered seems to me the most suitable method to answer the interests of the Arab public of Judaea, Samaria, and Gaza.

[Ganor] Mr Shamir, with your permission, let us direct our discussion to another arena, the one to our north. The impression is that Syria is not yielding or letting up in its efforts in Lebanon. It seems that it is pursuing its war against the Christian enclave. The United States has evacuated its representatives, and the French have withdrawn their naval vessels from the Lebanese coast. The world at large is quiet. Do the Syrian moves worry Israel?

[Shamir] We are worried, first of all, by what is taking place in Lebanon. After all, it is impossible to view with equanimity the fact that killing and destruction have relentlessly continued in that country for years. Since 1975, for 14 years, these people have been the target of daily attacks. People are killed there day in and day out. But why? One cannot look at this with apathy. We very much regret the fact that we are unable to help. We are neighbors. Many of us know Lebanese people, and our

heart grieves over what is happening there. Yet we cannot in any way assist or help put an end to this, while we see the whole world around us as indifferent. I would say, shrugging off the problem with mere lip service. Now all hopes are being pinned on the Arab tripartite committee, which has failed before and which I cannot envision succeeding now. But supposing it does somehow manage to find a formula that results in a cease-fire for several weeks, still this worries us. Any show of violence in our region or bloodshed in our vicinity—in neighboring countries—is a cause for concern. We want peace here, both in our country and among all our neighbors.

[Ganor] Has anything new evolved in the efforts to obtain the release of the IDF POW's and MIA's from Lebanon?

[Shamir] Right now there is nothing special that can be reported on.

[Ya'aqobi] Have negotiations toward their release begun already?

[Shamir] I repeat my earlier statement.

[Ben-Menahem] Mr Prime Minister, today's press reported on Israel's participation in an international spy swap campaign.

[Shamir] From time to time such reports do appear. Some people make it their business. Of course we are interested in the exchange of detainees or POW's and MIA's, but we have no information on what was reported today.

[Ben-Menahem] Are we also interested in spy swaps?

[Shamir] If it can help obtain the release of our men—with pleasure.

[Ganor] Does this include the Pollards as well?

[Shamir] No one talked to us about this. Israel is not involved in this story at all. [passage omitted]

### Minister Arens Comments

*TA0709192589 Jerusalem Government Press Office in English 7 Sep 89*

["Excerpts" from interview with Foreign Minister Moshe Arens by Dan Shilon; on "A New Evening" television program, 7 September—all punctuation as received]

[Text] Q: Is Jordan responsible for the Katyusha rockets fired from its territory?

A: The Jordanian Government is definitely responsible. To the best of our knowledge, the Jordanian Government is attempting to prevent such occurrences. I do not think Jordan is behind them. But all terrorist activities originating on Jordanian territory are definitely the Jordanian Government's responsibility.

Q: What are we actually demanding of Jordan when we hold it responsible?

A: We are demanding of the Jordanian Government that it take the steps required by this situation to prevent such actions in the future.

Q: Are our messages to Jordan on the diplomatic level only, or are threats being made as well?

A: I do not think it is necessary to threaten. I think that the Jordanians themselves desire that such things not occur. But it is worthwhile to prod them and remind them that this is their obligation.

Q: Are we talking about Egypt's 10-point plan more than the Israeli peace initiative?

A: We must talk about the initiative. I would like to ask and encourage every Israeli, and certainly every Israeli politician and every Cabinet minister, to talk about the initiative. It is our initiative. In our assessment, it is the only means which can promote the peace process. We expect and hope that the Arab world will respond positively to this initiative. We are happy that the U.S. Administration supports the intiative, and therefore, anything that can promote the initiative will also promote the peace process.

Q: Are you hinting that there is something to discuss in the Egyptian plan?

A: I would say that every response to our initiative can be discussed.

Q: It also talks of territories in exchange for peace.

A: When we say that there is something to talk about, this includes issues which we reject. There are things that we say we can discuss; there are other things we accept. The formula of territories in exchange for peace bears no connection to the Arab point in our peace initiative and to elections: it has nothing to do with elections at all. Anyone who wants to bring this up will have to do so when negotiations regarding the permanent solution are held, which is not now.

Q: Egypt is talking about a 10-point initiative and the U.S. is also treating this initiative as something important. Perhaps we are abandoning our basis in order to start from an inferior position?

A: There is no 10-point initiative; there is no Egyptian initiative on this matter. Perhaps the Egyptians posed some questions. All the questions relate to our initiative. I think it would not be smart on our part to try to portray this as if suddenly this initiative is replacing our initiative. You also have to remember that the elections proposal is only one of four points in our initiative.

Q: Some have mocked Israel's request for aid to rehabilitate Palestinian refugees.

A: (...) The call for international action to rehabilitate the refugee camps in Judaea, Samaria and the Gaza District

is the third part of the Israel Government's initiative. When we say international action, it is clear that we are turning to the wealthy countries. Actually, we approached each one of the seven richest countries in the world: the U.S., Japan, Canada, France, England, Germany and Italy. This is not the first time. This initiative has been discussed in the Cabinet. This point has been discussed in the Cabinet. (...)

Q: Israel requests so much assistance from the U.S. in so many fields. Morally, can it also place the financial responsibility on the U.S. for rehabilitating the refugees?

A: We do not place the responsibility on anyone. An international effort is involved here. A number of countries can and must be partners to these efforts. (...) I don't see any moral question here. We all know that the matter is an important one. Violence began in the refugee camps as a result of a feeling of frustration and bitterness because of intolerable conditions. The Arab world has prevented this problem from being dealt with for over forty years. Therefore, rehabilitating these camps is part of the peace process. Therefore, it is certainly desirable for countries which talk of their support for the peace process, countries which encourage us to advance in this direction, to bear (the burden of) part of this campaign, and I think that they will do this. (...)

### Defense Sources Blame Syria

*TA0809052089 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 0500 GMT 8 Sep 89*

[Text] The assessment in Israel is that Syria is behind the two latest terrorist attacks from Jordan. The terrorists are believed to have arrived from Syrian territory via the point where the Israeli, Jordanian, and Syrian borders meet. A senior military source has told our correspondent Karmela Menashe that it is very easy to introduce a katyusha into that area in the trunk of a vehicle or even on the back of a donkey, launch it, and escape.

### Infiltrator Came Via Jordan

*TA0709174489 Tel Aviv HADASHOT in Hebrew 7 Sep 89 p 3*

[Report by Alex Fishman]

[Text] The terrorist who was killed last Saturday near Kefar Ruppin after killing two Israeli soldiers entered Jordan from Syria at the Israel-Jordan-Syria border junction. This is the assessment of security elements. According to these elements the man was not a Jordanian soldier, but a member of one of the pro-Syrian Palestinian organizations.

The infiltration path on the Yarmuk River is well known, the sources said. Israel is aware of that fact, and the Jordanians are also concentrating forces and demonstrating far more activity along this part of their border with Syria than they do along the Rift Valley borderline. It was further said that while the Syrians allow infiltrations into Jordanian territory by elements hostile to the Jordanian regime, or terrorists seeking passage to Israel, they do not allow similar activities to be carried out along the Golan Heights.

### IDF Takes 'Grave View'

*TA0709165989 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1400 GMT 7 Sep 89*

[Text] The IDF [Israel Defense Forces] takes a grave view of the launching of the katyusha rockets and the other events that have recently taken place on the Jordanian border. Our correspondent Karmela Menashe says, however, that at present the IDF has no intention of changing its defensive deployment in the area. These incidents are viewed as merely irregular instances, although very grave.

Military sources have told our correspondent that the eastern border will not be treated similarly to the northern border from the point of view of resources. It has been stressed that a change of the military deployment requires a decision by the political level.

Our correspondent Shulamit Schmerling reports from the Jordan Rift Valley that examinations made on our territory lead to the conclusion that the katyusha launcher employed last night was placed at a short distance from a Jordanian advanced post.

### Jordanian Infiltrations Analyzed

*TA0409143289 Tel Aviv HA'ARETZ in Hebrew 4 Sep 89 p 1*

[Commentary by Ze'ev Schiff: "Slack Jordanian Intelligence Also Responsible for the Numerous Infiltrations"]

[Text] Among the reasons for the increase in infiltrations along the Jordanian border with Israel is the weakening in Jordanian intelligence as well as the fact that the Palestinian organizations are being given a freer hand to operate there and to open various offices.

Israel knows that there has been no significant change in Jordan's approach to terrorist infiltrations from across the border. Jordan is generally strict about such attempts and also tries to prevent suspicious Palestinian elements from sneaking across from Syria and other places. Jordanian security authorities were worried about the incidents involving Jordanian soldiers—inspired by the intifadah [uprising]—who decided independently to infiltrate into Israel and carry out attacks.

Nevertheless, a change has been felt in the tone of Israel's response to the latest incident near Kefar Ruppin, in which one Israel soldier was killed and another sustained fatal wounds. Defense Minister Yitzhaq Rabin, Chief of Staff Dan Shomron, and Central Command chief Yitzhaq Mordekhay did not rush to blame Amman, but

the three advised Jordan in a tone containing a covert warning to take tougher measures to prevent infiltrations.

Israel is concerned about the increased infiltrations in recent months and about the number of casualties. From an operational viewpoint, Jordan is incapable of hermetically sealing its border. Those who manage to sneak past the Jordanian guards often also succeed in sneaking through the Israeli security network. The Israeli complaint is that what is involved is not only guarding the border, but tougher intelligence work before the infiltrators even reach it. The impression gained here is that this work has been weakened both in the Army and in the civilian sector.

Jordan has had bad experiences by permitting Palestinian elements to operate freely there in the past. Those who support an armed struggle against Israel everywhere will not give up attempts to harm it from across the Jordanian border as well, thus sparking a conflict between Jordan and Israel. This was the case when Jordan permitted the commanders of Fatah's Force-17 to locate in Jordan.

Jordan is also ignoring the financial support that religious elements in the country are providing Hamas [Islamic Resistance Movement], the most extreme among the Palestinian groups.

### Premier's Office Denies Mubarak Summit Deal

*TA0809081689 Jerusalem THE JERUSALEM POST in English 8 Sep 89 pp 1, 8*

[Report by diplomatic correspondent Menahem Shalev]

[Excerpt] The Prime Minister's Office last night emphatically denied a report according to which Prime Minister Shamir recently suggested that if he were invited to Cairo to meet with Egyptian President Mubarak, the summit could produce agreement on the participation of East Jerusalem residents in the proposed elections in the territories.

Shamir is said, according to Labour party circles, to have put out the discreet feelers through an intermediary who maintains close ties with both a Likud minister and prominent Egyptian circles. Vice Premier Peres said at this week's Labour ministers' meeting that he had heard that Shamir was willing to make concessions in his peace plan within the context of a formal summit in Cairo.

Labour sources said that Mubarak had rebuffed Shamir's offer and had stressed that the prime minister must first respond to the Egyptian demand that the peace for territories formula be accepted in advance of any peace process.

Shamir's bureau chief, Yosi Ahime'ir, described the report as "an outright lie and fabrication. Shamir does not feel that he has to pay any price for a meeting with Mubarak."

Analysts in Jerusalem noted, however, that Shamir in his offer may have been trying to get Mubarak and the U.S. to forgo the demand on peace for territories in exchange for concessions on East Jerusalem. [passage omitted]

### Egyptian Ambassador Interviewed on 10-Point Plan

*TA0709154589 Jerusalem AL-FAJR in Arabic 7 Sep 89 pp 1, 11*

[Interview with Egyptian Ambassador to Israel Muhammad Basyuni, by Khalid abu-'Akr—date, place not given]

[Text] AL-FAJR: How do you see the outlook for peace in the region in view of the political stalemate and Israeli intransigence?

Basyuni: We see a necessity for movement because political stalemate leads to an escalation of violence in the region. Egypt is saying that a quick move should be undertaken so that everyone will be given the rights to which they are entitled. Hence, we think that at present the opportunity is ripe for this.

AL-FAJR: The 10 points put forward by Egypt are evoking different reactions. Why have they been raised at this particular time?

Basyuni: Egypt is always trying to find a just and comprehensive solution to the Palestinian problem because of Egypt's position and its pan-Arab commitment. Hence, at this stage we believe that the 10 points are a good basis for launching some kind of movement toward peace. Pan-Arab commitment dictates that Egypt do its utmost to seek a solution to the Palestinian problem which is the core of the Arab-Israeli conflict. Peace between Israel and the Arab states cannot be reached without a resolution of this problem, and peace cannot be achieved except by finding a just solution acceptable to the Palestinians.

AL-FAJR: Do you believe that the importance of an Egyptian role in a settlement has increased with the growing interest in the Egyptian 10 points?

Basyuni: There is a great significance, at all times, to the Egyptian role because Egypt is the only country that can conduct a dialogue with all parties to the conflict, and also has excellent relations with the East and West. For example, Egypt maintains good and special peace ties with Israel, as well as a distinguished fraternal relationship with the PLO and Jordan. Egypt has returned to the Arab League and currently is chairman of the Organization of African Unity, in addition to being a major, prominent, and founding member of the Nonaligned Movement. Egypt also maintains relations with both the East and the West. Therefore, on account of its position and its pan-Arab commitment to the Palestinian cause, Egypt plays a major role in this issue.

AL-FAJR: What distinguishes the Egyptian plan—by means of the 10 points—from the various initiatives that have been put forward?

Basyuni: There have been numerous initiatives, but the important thing is that they meet with success. The success of any initiative requires that it find a partner from the other side, and it must at least take into consideration the minimal demands of the other party. Hence, all the initiatives that have been put forward have not met with success because there was no partner who would accept them. As to the Egyptian points, they embody the demands of the Palestinian side, and enjoy the support of the world which finds acceptable points in them. They have also received a response from some Israeli officials. The points are based on the principle of land in return for peace.

AL-FAJR: Incidentally, was there coordination between Egypt and the PLO when the 10 points were put forward?

Basyuni: This question should be posed to the PLO, but I would like to affirm that Egypt will not accept anything rejected by the Palestinians, as represented by the PLO, the sole legitimate representative of the Palestinian people. We are also not ready to propose anything rejected by the PLO.

Our position is as follows: This is a Palestinian issue. The PLO is the one that has the right to reject or accept. We accept what it accepts and reject what it rejects. We are only trying to help in finding a just solution.

AL-FAJR: To date no official Israeli response has been issued on these points, but there have been various comments about them. Can you inform us, according to your contacts with Israeli officials, about the Israeli position that has crystalized?

Basyuni: The 10 points were not presented officially to the Israeli side. They were conveyed to Israel a few months ago by a U.S. congressman following his visit to Egypt. There are some who agree to these points and others who treat them with reservation. Some of the Israeli sides say that the 10 points are acceptable to their parties in principle. The declared Likud Party position says that no reply will be given to these points until the appearance of an Arab partner who is ready to participate in the peace initiative. So I would say that there is a difference in the positions within the parties on these points. Therefore, there is no official Israeli response. Also the points were not presented officially.

AL-FAJR: What about the United States?

Basyuni: The United States has neither supported nor objected, but if the 10 points are examined it is clear that they do not contradict the United States' declared policy for finding a solution to the Arab-Israeli conflict.

AL-FAJR: Is there a programmed Egyptian move to gain backing for this plan and mobilize support for these points?

Basyuni: In our discussions at all international forums we stress the Palestinian problem and the means to resolve it, and exert great effort toward this end. We do not stress the 10 points only. They are not the goal, but rather a means for achieving the goal. We will agree to any other means that will lead to the achievement of this goal, of course with the PLO's agreement. The important thing is to achieve peace and to grant the Palestinians their legitimate national rights in an achievable way.

AL-FAJR: Does the Egyptian Government intend to send a special envoy to discuss these points with the Israeli Government?

Basyuni: I believe that the discussion of these points through diplomatic channels is adequate at this stage.

AL-FAJR: But don't you believe that this step will provide a momentum to the Egyptian plan?

Basyuni: If there was hope that Israel would agree to this plan there would be no objection to increasing the scope of contacts. Were we to find an agreement in principle on the part of Israel, we would not object to sending a special envoy, but right now the discussion of this plan through diplomatic channels is adequate.

## Rabin Calls for Limiting Number of Workers

*TA0809053889 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 0500 GMT 8 Sep 89*

[Text] The defense minister says that the residents of the territories will suffer unless progress is made in the political process. He believes the number of employees from the territories should be limited to instill a greater feeling of security within the Green Line boundaries and thereby also help industry. Mr Rabin will confer with Secretary of State Baker, Secretary of Defense Cheney, and National Security Adviser Powell [as heard] in Washington.

## Soviet Visa Denial Result of Baltic Tension

*TA0709185789 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1705 GMT 7 Sep 89*

[Report from Vienna by Hayim Hecht]

[Text] Mr Katz-'Oz from Tel-Aviv—pazalsta [Russian for welcome]; Minister Katz-'Oz from Jerusalem—nyet. This is the message that arrived here a short while ago from Moscow after a nerve-wracking day. Simply put, the Russians, through this correspondent of the Voice of Israel, made it clear that all the official elements in the delegation—beginning with the minister and his aides—would not be granted entry visas. A very senior Moscow official made it clear that this surprising refusal was a result of the Estonian prologue to the Moscow visit.

Minister Katz-'Oz was officially invited by Estonian Agriculture Minister Vello Lind to open the Israeli pavilion at the international flower exhibition in Tallinn.

the Estonian capital. The telex that arrived in Vienna further noted that Katz-'Oz would be received by the Estonian prime minister.

Upon learning about the visit, the Moscow Agriculture Ministry transferred an invitation to Katz-'Oz to visit there as well. The Soviets made it clear that they were very interested in developing commercial ties with Israel, and that they wished to purchase large quantities of agricultural produce and know-how from us.

Alas, the first visit by an Israeli minister to Moscow since ties between the two counties were severed in 1967, has, as it now appears, fallen into the expanding crack between the Kremlin and the Baltic peoples. It is worth mentioning that the Estonians lead the struggle for the independence of the republics on the Baltic shore. They maintain that they were occupied by Soviet troops. Israeli flags were already flying in Tallinn this morning in preparation for the visit, while Moscow became more and more agitated.

With the announcement of the refusal, a senior Moscow official this afternoon made it clear: We decided to teach them a lesson. We regret that it had to be at your expanse.

The disappointment and frustration among the Israeli delegation members cannot, of course, be concealed. Minister Avraham Katz-'Oz was not too particular with his language: Their mistake, screw-up, or confusion is their business. We followed all diplomatic protocol rules. I was officially invited, and I responded favorably. My trip to Moscow, Minister Katz-'Oz stressed, was not a personal decision to make. It was coordinated with the prime minister, the vice prime minister, and the foreign minister. I am not personally offended by the refusal. Those who should feel ashamed are the Russians; it is their mess.

### Soviet Emigration in August 'Highest' in Years

*TA0109100289 Jerusalem THE JERUSALEM POST in English 1 Sep 89 p 16*

[Itim report]

[Text] Vienna—A total number of 6,470 Jews left the Soviet Union during August, of whom 850, or 13.1 percent, went to Israel. In addition, about 1,700 Christians left the Soviet Union on Israeli visas, Jewish Agency representatives said. The number of emigrants was the highest in the past 10 years, they added.

### Delegation Denied Entry Into Mozambique

*TA0309093089 Jerusalem THE JERUSALEM POST in English 3 Sep 89 p 8*

[Report by political correspondent Mikhal Yudelman]

[Excerpt] The Foreign Ministry is trying to find out why an official agricultural delegation sent to Mozambique had to return to Israel after spending the night alone in a locked room at the country's international airport.

Labour Knesset Member Mikha Goldman yesterday demanded an investigation into the affair and clarifications from the Foreign Ministry.

Uri Dor, a member of the delegation sent two week ago, said yesterday he had heard that an apology had been received from Mozambique and that he understood the whole affair was the result of faulty communications. [passage omitted]

### 'Formal' Protest Against Noriega Planned

*TA0409091189 Jerusalem THE JERUSALEM POST in English 4 Sep 89 p 1*

[Report by diplomatic correspondent Menahem Shalev]

[Excerpts] Jerusalem intends to publicly protest against Panamanian leader Manuel Noriega's refusal to relinquish power, sources in Jerusalem said last night.

Prime Minister Shamir replied at the end of last week to U.S. President George Bush's earlier appeal that Israel "reassess" its relationship with Panama if Noriega refused to step down on September 1.

In his letter, Shamir wrote that Israel is following the developments in Panama with concern, and that Israel's views will be conveyed to the Panamanian government.

Sources said last night that Israel's protest might take the form of a publicly-issued communique, or a formal protest to be lodged with the Panamanian charge d'affaires here. At the same time, the sources appeared to rule out any stronger action. [passage omitted]

In his letter, Shamir expressed support for the democratic process in Central America and efforts to ensure it. The letter did not specifically refer to Noriega.

### Police To Recommend Trial of Hod Hahanit Heads

*TA0709111089 Jerusalem THE JERUSALEM POST in English 7 Sep 89 p 1*

[Report by Andy Goldberg]

[Text] Police will recommend that the Hod Hahanit security consultancy and its associates stand trial on charges of exporting military knowledge to Colombia without a licence, sources close to the investigation stated yesterday.

Material collected during the two-week police investigation into the company's activities will shortly be transferred to the State Attorney's Office where the final decision on prosecution will be made.

The police spokesman, however, issued a statement yesterday denying that a decision had yet been reached

on the case. No material would be transferred to the State Attorney until the investigation was wound up, a police spokesman said.

Sources close to the investigation stated that the material so far in police hands provided enough evidence on which to base a prosecution, but that it was still unclear whether the case would be brought before a district or a magistrate's court.

The district court's maximum sentence for the charge of exporting military knowledge without a licence is seven years; a magistrate's court may impose a sentence of only three years.

Officers of the Petah Tiqva-based Serious Crimes Division started investigating the Hod Hahanit case following a complaint from the Defence Ministry last month. In the past two weeks, six Hod Hahanit operatives have been questioned—company president Ya'ir Klein, as well as Amatziya Tzedaqa, Teddy Melnik, Dror Ayal and Yitzhaq Mariot-Shoshani. All are suspected of organizing military training programmes in Colombia.

"If I am eventually prosecuted, and that is far from certain, I believe that it will only be on a technical count. The court will acquit me very quickly," Klein told THE JERUSALEM POST yesterday.

The police case rests on the results of the questioning of the suspects and on a copy of a videocassette screened by NBC which allegedly shows Klein instructing Colombians in military techniques.

Police sources stated yesterday that, despite repeated requests to Colombian authorities to transfer possibly incriminating material, no hard proof linking Hod Hahanit to the drug cartel had been received. Sources also pointed out that there was no specfic law against working for foreign drug cartels.

## Police End Consultancy Inquiry

*TA0809093089 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 0900 GMT 8 Sep 89*

[Text] The police investigation into the activities of the Hod Hahanit company in Colombia has ended. Our police affairs correspondent Moshe Nussbaum reports that the material, plus recommendations, will be transferred to the State Attorney's Office early next week. Our correspondent has learned that the police are recommending that six Hod Hahanit trainers, suspected of exporting military know-how overseas without a license, stand trial. This is a felony, carrying a maximum penalty of 3 years imprisonment. If the State Attorney's Office endorse the police recommendation, charge sheets will be filed.

Consultations on the conclusions and recommendations are currently under way in the Police Investigations Division. These consultations are being chaired by Commander Yehoshu'a Kaspi.

## Amal-Hizballah Relations Influence Border Area

*TA0409132289 Jerusalem THE JERUSALEM POST in English 4 Sep 89 p 2*

["Analysis" by David Rudge: "Amal Seen Aiding Hizballah"]

[Text] Amal, the Shi'ite movement which controls South Lebanon may give Hizballah extremists some latitude to attack Israeli interests in the area in order to encourage Iran to give Amal more support, South Lebanese sources say.

"There is reason to believe that Amal will have to relax restrictions on Hizballah and might also allow some 'show' operations against targets in the security zone for the benefit of the Iranians, although I don't think there will be anything major," a Lebanese observer says.

Katyusha rocket attacks last week on the Galilee Panhandle and Western Galilee caused speculation that Amal was loosening its grip on the South in accordance with the accords reached with the pro-Iranian Hizballah and the PLO.

The latest rocket attack, early last Thursday, conincided with an attempt by Amal gunmen to infiltrate into the western sector of the security zone in South Lebanon to hit a South Lebabese Army position. The attempt was foiled by IDF [Israel Defense Forces] troops.

A veteran observer of Lebanese affairs told THE JERUSALEM POST that "Amal's regulations, which have been in force since 1985, oppose long-range firing either into the security zone or Israel and there haven't been any changes." In the past, Amal loyalists have arrested those responsible for firing rockets.

The movement now, however, is in a more difficult position because of an agreement with Hizballah, which was reaffirmed during a visit to Iran in July by Amal leader Nabih Birri. The reconfirmation was engineered by Iran's new leadership which promised Amal that Iran would share its favours more equitably between Amal and Hizballah.

The accord was ratified by Amal's new leadership in the South, which is composed of seven area commanders from north and south of the al-Litani River who are all followers of Da'ud Da'ud, the late Amal chief in the South, who was assassinated last September.

Da'ud, who had overwhelming Shi'ite support in the South, would probably have vetoed the agreement, which gives Hizballah the right to launch operations against the security zone, provided they are coordinated with Amal.

The new combined leadership appears to have signed the accord while trying not to implement it.

Similarly with the Palestinians, Amal militiamen have maintained a close watch on al-Rashidiyah and smaller refugee camps near Tyre to prevent a PLO renaissance.

"The situation on the ground has not really changed, despite the pressure on Amal's leadership in the South," said the Lebanon observer.

He maintained, however, that the situation was very fluid, with the new leaders appeasing the Iranians and the Arab world on the one hand and trying to maintain a semblance of quiet in their region on the other. The Beirut crisis has also helped make August one of the quietest months in the region for several years, the observer said.

## Second 'Spy' Satellite Scheduled for Launch

*PM0709160089 London THE DAILY TELEGRAPH in English 7 Sep 89 p 14*

[Article by Anton La Guardia: "Israel Plans To Launch Second Spy Satellite"]

[Text] Israel is planning to launch a second spy satellite in the coming weeks, almost a year after launching Ofek 1, Western diplomats and defence sources said yesterday. It is believed that Ofek 2 will be sent into orbit from a testing ground on the Mediterranean coast south of Tel Aviv.

Ofek 1 remained in orbit until January, far longer than initially planned, and it is believed the new craft may stay in place for about two years.

The launch will be around the Sept 19 anniversary of that of Ofek 1, which was officially described as a scientific device designed to "study the earth's atmosphere and magnetic field". Israeli experts have said it could have military applications.

Israel eventually wants to develop a military reconnaissance satellite to spy on its Arab neighbours and free itself from its dependence on United States intelligence pictures.

Although Israel has never disclosed what vehicle was used to lift Ofek 1 into orbit, it was believed to be a specially adapted version of the Israeli-made Jericho ground-to-ground missile.

Meanwhile, an Egyptian military spokesman said yesterday that there had been an explosion at an Iraqi defence establishment "in the second half of August".

Western diplomats were still seeking confirmation last night of reports that the accident had destroyed part of a secret Iraqi missile factory at Al-Hillah, south of Baghdad, killing up to 700 people. Egyptian technicians were supposedly among the casualties, and the Maadi military hospital in Cairo was reportedly closed to civilian patients. But hospital officials yesterday denied the report.

According to some accounts, the accident destroyed only an Iraqi explosives factory. But Kurdish opposition sources maintain that the Al-Hillah plant was being used to develop the Badr-2000 medium-range missile, in conjunction with Egypt and Argentina.

They said it took Iraqi authorities, using fire-fighting aircraft, a week to bring the flames under control.

One Western arms control official said: "If the reports are true, it would be a spectacular failure for the Iraqis. It underlines the fact that it is very expensive in terms of resources and manpower for Third World countries to develop this kind of high-technology weapon."

The Argentine version of the missile is known as the Condor 2, and a group of seven Western countries taking part in the Missile Technology Control Regime have been trying to slow down the project.

The missile, which could be fitted with chemical warheads, is thought to have a range of about 550 miles, which would allow Argentina to reach the Falklands and Iraq to reach Israel.

However, the Condor 2/Badr 2000 project has been plagued by accuracy problems, partly as a result of Western restrictions on guidance technology.

Britain has been pressing the Soviet Union and China to cooperate with the West to check the spread of ballistic missiles, especialy in the Middle East.

Arab missiles can already reach most parts of Israel, which is also trying to develop anti-missile defences.

Thousands of residents in central Israel saw a possible missile test over the Mediterranean last Sunday when they say an object streaked across the sky, leaving a bright trail.

There was no official announcement of a test.

## No Second Launch 'This Year'

*TA0809080689 Jerusalem THE JERUSALEM POST in English 8 Sep 89 p 16*

[Report by David Horovitz and Judy Maltz]

[Excerpt] Israel Aircraft Industries yesterday rejected out-of-hand a British press report claiming it was about to launch a second satellite into space. "Ofek-2 is not included in our working programme this year, and no date has been set for its launching," a company spokeswoman said.

A report appearing in yesterday's DAILY TELEGRAPH said Israel was planning the imminent launch of a second satellite, almost a year after the successful launch of the Ofek-1. According to Western defence sources quoted by the newspaper, Ofek-2 will be sent into orbit within weeks. [passage omitted]

## 3d Lavi Prototype Set for Flight Testing in Oct

*TA0409163289 Tel Aviv DAVAR in Hebrew 4 Sep 89 p 4*

[Report by Arye Arad]

[Text] The third Lavi prototype will begin test flights and demonstrations next month as part of the Israel Aircraft Industries [IAI] attempt to sell avionics systems in the upgrading of old fighter planes. Heading the "Technological Demonstrator" project is 'Ovadiya Hararı, winner of the Israel Prize for engineering.

The IAI developed unique avionic systems for the Lavi, including a totally integrated computer system which lessens the pilot's work load. The system can decrease the pilot's work load by up to 75 percent at critical moments, enabling him to concentrate on carrying out his mission and evading enemy fire. In the future a new radar system, currently being developed by Elta, will be installed in the plane. Upgrading the plane with these avionics systems will cost between $2 to $7 million depending on the extent of work done. In other words, upgrading will cost between 15 to 35 percent of the price of a new plane.

The system can be installed in whole or in part on a long line of old fighter planes, such as Mirages, Kfirs, Phantoms, and F-5s, which are constantly upgraded by the IAI at the request of various air forces. The best known of these projects is the upgrading of Israeli Air Force Phantoms, the Qurnas 2000. It is estimated that the upgrading of the F-15, if such a project is given the go-ahead, will be carried out on the basis of technologies now scheduled to be tested under flight conditions.

The Lavi prototype was chosen for the demonstration flights because it was the cheapest and fastest solution. The plane was already in the process of construction when it was decided to cancel the project 2 years ago. The actual systems were tailored for the Lavi right from the very beginning, and adapting them to another platform would demand much work.

The decision to use the Lavi prototype also permits IAI to preserve the aviation technologies it has perfected. The need to retain these technologies was clearly expressed in the government decision to cancel the Lavi project. These technologies are needed by Israel to prepare for any possible contingency and to create new weapon systems for the battlefield of the future.

Up to a year ago, funding for the development of these systems came from the Defense Ministry budget. The defense establishment then stopped funding the project; necessary funding is now received from the IAI's research and development allocation.

## IDF Installs 'Sophisticated' Border System

*TA0809082289 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 0800 GMT 8 Sep 89*

[Text] The IDF [Israel Defense Forces] has begun to repair a segment of the border fence along the Jordan Rift Valley. This is part of the multiyear maintenance plan for sensitive areas along the border. Our correspondent Karmela Menashe reports that a reliable and sophisticated system is being installed in that area of the border. It will be similar to the system that has been installed along the northern border.

## Agreement Signed for Elat Solar Power Plant

*TA3108105289 Jerusalem Domestic Service in English 1000 GMT 31 Aug 89*

[Excerpt] In Tel Aviv, the ministers of finance and energy this morning signed an agreement to set up a solar power station north of Elat, which will provide all the power needs of the southern port city. Details from Tzvi Pantonovitz:

[Begin recording] [Pantonovitz] The plant is to be built by IEC, the Israel Electric Corporation. The know-how, the technical ability, and equipment for trapping the sun's rays will come from the Luz solar energy company in Jerusalem. The firm is based here, but so far has only managed to build its solar plants in California. Arnold Goldman, president of the company, on the Elat plant:

[Goldman] The unit itself that is currently being discussed is a 30-megawatt station. That is the size of the project that Luz had made up through last year. We are now currently making 80-megawatt stations. Elat uses about 22 to 24 megawatts and is growing at the order of about 10 percent a year. So it should be able to be used both for supplying power to Elat and going to the general grid and supplying power up north. We actually hope that, subsequent to this discussion, to be able to talk further with IEC and the ministries to have them consider building an 80 megawatt, which is our current technology, to see if the power could be used not only in Elat but going north. [passage omitted] [end recording]

## Shomron Says 700 Wanted Men 'Roaming' West Bank

*TA0509154189 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1500 GMT 5 Sep 89*

[Text] The chief of staff has said that approximately 700 wanted men are roaming Judaea and Samaria, operating against the IDF [Israel Defense Forces] and terrorizing the population. Our correspondent Ze'ev Kohen reports that Lieutenant General Dan Shomron made these remarks to the Knesset Foreign Affairs and Defense Committee. The chief of staff also told the committee that since the beginning of the intifadah [uprising] 468 locals have been killed by soldiers' gunfire, and approximately 100 inhabitants have been killed by strike committees.

### Special Jail Set Up for Certain Prisoners

*TA0309200489 Jerusalem Television Service in Hebrew 1900 GMT 3 Sept 89*

[Text] The Prison Service has recently started transferring security prisoners convicted of brutal murders to a special facility. From now on they will be denied some of the privileges allowed other prisoners from the territories. Among these special prisoners, for example, we can find the terrorist who toppled a bus over a cliff, and the terrorist who stabbed to death two elderly Jews in Jerusalem. Our police affairs correspondent Uri Kohen-Aharonov reports that the facility is being set up in the Nitzan detention center, and will house terrorists accused of committing especially brutal murders. These prisoners will be kept in solitary confinement, will not be allowed visitors as often as regular detainees, their exercise hours in the prison yard will be shortened, and they will not be permitted to buy food with their own money or keep a television in their cells.

Police Affairs Minister Bar-Lev refused to comment on this report.

### Frayj Calls on Israel To Make Peace Offer

*TA3108090789 Jerusalem THE JERUSALEM POST in English 31 Aug 89 p 12*

[Text] Bethlehem Mayor Ilyas Frayj last night firmly denied a report in yesterday's JERUSALEM POST that a meeting in his home on Tuesday with Health Minister Ya'aqov Tzur and Tat Aluf [Brigadier General] Shay Erez, head of the Civil Administration in Judaea and Samaria, was intended to be secret.

Referring to an unnamed army source, the report said that Tzur and Erez, worried about the mayor's safety, tried to conceal their visit to his home.

The mayor told THE POST that there was no concealment. He said that when the two Israelis and their aides arrived at his home in official vehicles, he greeted them at the gate. When they left, he escorted them out, he said.

"There was nothing disguised," said Frayj. "We had a very good meeting, discussing health affairs in the city and the general situation in the territories.

"I told Mr Tzur very frankly that in order to break the political deadlock Israel has to make a generous and magnanimous peace offer to the Palestinian people.

"In principle I strongly endorse free, fair and democratic elections. But there is no one in the West Bank and Gaza who has the authority to negotiate the laws, by-laws and modalities of such elections. That can only be done with the PLO in Tunis, whether directly or indirectly.

"I suggested two proposals to Mr Tzur: that Israel use the services of the U.S. and Egypt to reach agreement on these modalities with the PLO or that the PLO, in consultation with the U.S. and Egypt, authorize a Palestinian team to negotiate these modalities with Israel.

"In the meantime, the activities of the Israel military forces, their arbitrary actions and the sufferings caused the people are not conducive to a peace process.

"I told Mr Tzur that Israel must make a magnanimous offer to break the psychological barrier and get things moving."

### 2 Homes of 'Suspected' Terrorists Sealed

*TA0109050389 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 0400 GMT 1 Sep 89*

[Text] The security forces last night sealed the homes of two residents of the Nabulus area suspected of terrorist activities and attacking Arabs suspected of aiding the authorities.

Our correspondent Arye Gus reports that in Nabulus the home of a person suspected of hurling firebombs at Israeli vehicles 6 months ago was sealed.

In the village of Bayt Furik the house of a youth wanted for participating in the strike forces, and a long list of attacks on inhabitants, interrogations, violence, and torture, as well as planting explosives near Nabulus' Clock Square 1 year ago, was sealed.

The High Court of Justice rejected appeals by the owners of the houses against there being sealed.

### Inter-Arab Violence 56 Percent of Attacks

*TA0109115089 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1005 GMT 1 Sep 89*

[Text] Since the start of the year most of the attacks in the territories were by Arabs against other Arabs. This is according to data compiled in a document prepared by the IDF [Israel Defense Forces]. Roni Daniyel has the details:

Under the title: Casualties Resulting From Attacks on Local Targets, the document discloses a surprising fact: Some 56 percent of the violent attacks in the territories were aimed at Palestinian Arabs. Violent attacks do not include stone throwing, disturbances, or tire burning, but only bodily injuries, whether causing just wounds or resulting in fatalities. In absolute figures, there have been 1,751 attacks since the beginning of the year, of which 970—some 56 percent—were against local Palestinians. The document shows that attacks on local inhabitants suspected of collaborating with Israel is on the rise. Of 89 people murdered because they were suspected of collaborating with Israel, or on moral offenses such as drugs, 70 were murdered in the last 8 months.

A study of the murders of local Arabs since the beginning of the uprising, and confessions by suspects, presents a picture of deep cruelty. Subhi Hamdani of Rafah was burned alive, and Muhammad Ibrahim of the Zaytun neighborhood in Gaza was buried alive by his two brothers who stayed near the hole to make sure he died. Others suspected of collaboration were murdered with

axes and their bodies were hacked. Suspected collaborators were mutilated—Ahmad 'Aflaq's two ears were cut off with a knife. The above were especially grave incidents, but they indicate a trend.

### Further on 31 Aug Unrest in Territories

*TA0109122289 Tel Aviv DAVAR in Hebrew 1 Sep 89 p 2*

[Report by Dani Rubinstein, Dani Tzidqoni, and Yoram Levi]

[Excerpts] A youngster from Khan Yunus died of his wounds yesterday. In the Gaza Strip, 18 people were wounded and a partial commercial strike was staged yesterday to protest the large number of casualties in the past few days. Relative quiet prevailed in Judaea and Samaria, and the IDF continued its initiated operations in Arab villages. [passage omitted]

There were many incidents in Gaza. Firebombs were thrown at an IDF [Israel Defense Forces] position in the al-Shaykh Radwan neighborhood and at a patrol in Khan Yunus. The soldiers sustained no casualties, but according to Arab sources, 18 local inhabitants were injured by gunfire. Two of them were shot in the head and were taken to Tel Hashomer and al-Shifa' Hospitals. Most of the casualties were in al-Shaykh Radwan, Khan Yunus, and Jabalyah. [passage omitted] [Quoting Gaza hospital sources, Jerusalem THE JERUSALEM POST in English on 1 September in a report by Mikhal Sela' on pages 1 and 14 puts the casualty toll at 30.]

In Nabulus, a firebomb was hurled at an IDF patrol at the entrance to the 'Askar refugee camp. The area was cordoned off and searches were launched. The IDF conducted most of its initiated operations yesterday in the Ramallah District and in the villages of Qarawat Bani Hasan, al-Judayrah, Ramin, Talfit, and Bayt Wazan. The curfew on Tulkarm and its environs was lifted last night. [passage omitted]

[Tel Aviv HA'ARETZ in Hebrew on 1 September in a report by Ori Nir and Eytan Rabin on page 2 of section A adds: "The curfew on the village of Idnah, where the family of a collaborator was attacked last week, has been lifted; over 10 people have been arrested."

Tel Aviv HADASHOT in Hebrew on 1 September in a report by Oren Kohen and Mikhal Qedem on page 7 adds that "a curfew was imposed on the villages of Tammun and Qarawat Bani Hasan, and local inhabitants reported searches and beatings by soldiers. An Israeli bus that was driving workers to Israel was pelted with stones near the village of Dayr Sharaf in Samaria. Four passengers were wounded and driven back home."]

### Palestinian Business Association Begun on Bank

*TA0109140689 Jerusalem AL-FAJR in Arabic 30 Aug 89 p 12*

[Text] Jerusalem—The formation of the "Palestinian Chambers of Commerce and Industry Association" was announced yesterday at a meeting in Jerusalem's chamber of commerce and industry.

The meeting, attended by the heads of the chambers of commerce and industry of Jerusalem, Gaza, Nabulus, Hebron, Ramallah, Tulkarm, Janin, Jericho, and representatives from the chambers of Bethlehem and Qalqilyah, discussed economic issues, most prominent of which was formation of the association.

Those present at the meeting decided to choose Shaykh 'Ali al-Taziz, head of Jerusalem's chamber of commerce, as chairman of the association; Haj Raghib Murtaji, head of the Gaza Strip chamber of commerce, as deputy chairman; Fa'iq Barakat as the association's adviser; and 'Abd-al-Rahman Abu-Layl as the association's secretary. It was decided that Jerusalem will be the association's headquarters.

An official of the association told AL-FAJR that the announcement on setting up the association aims at affirming the unity of our people's cause in the occupied land. He pointed out that the motive behind the formation of the association is coordination of positions concerning economic and financial matters among the Palestinians chambers in the West Bank and Gaza Strip. He said that setting up the association will enable us to join the general Arab association of chambers of commerce.

It is worth noting that an association that included the West Bank chambers of commerce and industry, within the framework of the Jordanian association, existed in the Palestinian [West] Bank prior to the disengagement decision.

### 89th Suspected Collaborator Killed in the Negev

*TA0109190389 Jerusalem Television Service in Hebrew 1715 GMT 1 Sep 89*

[Text] A detainee from Gaza was murdered by another inmate in the Qezi'ot military detention center in the Negev. The murder was committed during a violent riot that broke out in one of the wings. An IDF [Israel Defense Forces] guard unit dispersed the rioters and found the detainee's body. Later a fellow inmate, also a Gaza resident, declared that he was the assassin.

Negev District police investigators have reported that the assassination was committed because the man was suspected of assisting the Israeli authorities.

A Rafah resident was killed this morning also against suspicions that he was assisting the authorities. A group of masked individuals stabbed him to death in front of his own home in broad daylight.

Since the beginning of the intifadah [uprising] 89 individuals have been murdered in the territories and Israel. All of them were suspected of assisting the Israeli authorities or of having committed moral crimes. The above was reported by the Defense Ministry. In addition to these, four other residents of Judaea, Samaria, and Gaza were killed in attacks intended against Jews, and 245 Arabs who were suspected of collaboration were wounded in various attacks.

An examination of the murderous attacks on inhabitants of the territories and of confessions made during questioning indicate that some of these individuals were murdered exceptionally cruelly. This includes a case in which a man was buried alive. Also, bodies have been mutilated after death. There were other heinous acts of disrespect for the dead.

### 3d Collaborator Found Dead in Tulkarm Area

*TA0209043989 Jerusalem Domestic Service in English 0400 GMT 2 Sep 89*

[Text] Three Arab residents of the territories were found dead yesterday. All had apparently been killed by other Palestinians who thought that they had been cooperating with the Israeli authorities. Forty-five-year-old Muhammad Sadiq al-Hurayshi was stabbed to death in Qaffin village near Tulkarm; Muhammad Nasir Bulbul, 39, was found beaten to death in Rafah in the Gaza Strip; and at the Qezi'ot prison in the Negev, Jamal Khalaf, who was 24, was stabbed during Thursday night by fellow inmates.

### Rafah Collaborator Killed; Gaza Curfew Update

*TA0209113989 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1100 GMT 2 Sep 89*

[Text] 'Abd-al-Rahman Abu-Shalluf, aged 30, from Rafah was murdered by gunshots. Unidentified persons shot several bullets at him in the market area and escaped. The police have launched an investigation. Rafah residents have told our correspondent that the man was known to be a drug dealer and a collaborator with Israel.

This morning the IDF [Israel Defense Forces] lifted the curfew from the town of Dayr al-Balah in the Gaza District, but imposed one on the al-Nusayrat refugee camp.

### Arabs Boycott Schools Over Lack of Funds

*TA0309104389 Jerusalem THE JERUSALEM POST in English 3 Sep 89 p 2*

[Report by David Rudge]

[Text] Dabburiyah—Israeli Arab leaders are threatening further sanctions in their battle to improve educational facilities in the Arab sector following yesterday's nationwide school strike.

Organisers said the strike had been fully supported with nearly 250,000 children staying away from schools on their first day of the new term, which was to have been yesterday as Friday is the Moslem day of rest.

The one-day strike was organised by the National Committee of Arab Local Councils to protest alleged government discrimination in education.

The Education Ministry has denied the charges.

But Dabburiyah local council head Asad 'Azizi described the ministry's claims as nonsense. "Half of all the teachers who have lost their jobs because of the cutbacks in school hours are from the Arab sector," said 'Azizi, a member of the national committee.

"The ministry itself recognizes that due to the lack of out-of-school-hour activities in Arab schools, Arab schoolchildren study eight percent fewer hours than Jewish children," he asserted.

Nimr Murqis, head of Kafr Yasif in the Galilee, noted that there was a shortage of more than 1,000 class-rooms in the Arab sector, as a result of which tens of thousands of youngsters had to study in rented and unsuitable buildings. He charged that Education Minister Yitzhaq Navon had failed to honour his promises to raise standards in Arab schools to the level of Jewish schools. The committee has demanded a meeting with Navon. "If nothing is arranged within the next three weeks we will meet again to consider what further steps to take," said 'Azizi.

### Suspected Collaborator Killed, 2 Wounded

*TA0309112089 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1000 GMT 3 Sep 89*

[Text] Attacks against Gaza Strip residents suspected of collaborating with the authorities continue. In Gaza, 25-year-old Riyad 'Abbas was assassinated this morning. His body was discovered in the vicinity of Falastin Square.

In Gaza's al-Daraj neighborhood, another resident was severely beaten. He was brought to al-Shifa' Hospital, but ran away.

Our correspondent Arye Gus reports that a resident of Khan Yunus was shot in the back. He was evacuated to Ashqelon's Barzilay Hospital in what was described as moderately severe condition. The Army is investigating the circumstances.

### Update on 3 Sep Incidents in Territories

*TA0409140789 Jerusalem THE JERUSALEM POST in English 4 Sep 89 p 8*

[Report by Mikhal Sela']

[Excerpts] Palestinians in the Gaza Strip beat and stabbed to death a 30-year-old Palestinian and wounded

four others in continuing internecine warfare in the occupied territories. [passage omitted]

In other developments, troops shot and wounded five Palestinians in the al-Shati' refugee camp and a woman in Gaza City during clashes with demonstrators, according to Palestinian sources.

In the West Bank, troops shot and wounded Palestinian demonstrators in Halhul, Bethlehem, Silwad (near Ramallah), and Silat al-Zahr (near Janin), according to Palestinian sources. Meanwhile, settlers stoned Palestinian cars on the road between Hebron and Halhul yesterday evening, wounding three people who were rushed to 'Aliya Hospital in Hebron for treatment, Palestinian sources said.

The Israeli security source said Palestinians behind the recent spate of violence in the territories worked individually or in small groups and constituted "the hard core of the uprising". Like the five killed or wounded in Nabulus on Saturday, these mavericks do not accept the directives of the leadership. In the Gaza Strip, they are made up of small groups organized on a neighbourhood basis. Several dozen of them are on the army's wanted list. "They use blackmail, threats and create a climate of terror against the Arabs themselves," the sources said.

Asked whether the authorities could protect Palestinians who assist them, the source said: "There is no way to give 100 per cent protection. We are talking about thousands of people, not to mention thousands more working for the Civil Administration. Some of these people receive weapons from us, expecially those whose lives, we believe, are in danger, but who would not misuse the arms. We have different means of providing security to some of the others."

[Tel Aviv MA'ARIV in Hebrew on 4 September, in a report by Avino'am Bar-Yosef, 'Ezra Yanuv, and Rahamim Ya'aqov in section A, pages 1 and 2, reports: "The defense establishment will encourage villagers who had abandoned their homes after being suspected of collaborating with Israeli authorities to return to their villages. They will be offered weapons that will be provided by the Army for self-defense. In the framework of the new policy, some of these residents will be given Army training in the use of firearms." The report adds that "last week, the Army evacuated 70 residents from a Hebron District village after they were attacked by about 2,000 residents who also set fire to four houses and a store."]

## AL-SHA'B Editor Freed After 1-Year Detention

*TA0509154389 Jerusalem AL-SHA'B in Arabic 5 Sep 89 p 1*

[Text] Jerusalem— The Israeli authorities yesterday released colleague Salah al-Zuhayka, 36, an editor of AL-SHA'B, after a 1-year security detention at Ramla prison.

It is worth noting that colleague al-Zuhayka had served a 6-month administrative detention prior to his latest detention.

## Further on 5 Sep Incidents in Territories

*TA0609130989 Tel Aviv HADASHOT in Hebrew 6 Sep 89 p 4*

[Report by Mikhal Qedem, Oren Kohen, Shim'on Elqabetz, and Ronit Antler]

[Excerpt] [Passage omitted] With the exception of isolated incidents, quiet prevailed in the Gaza Strip yesterday. Arab sources reported that in an incident in Khan Yunus, six locals were wounded: two by live fire and four by rubber bullets. In the evening, six more Gaza residents were reported wounded, including three 5-year-olds who sustained serious head injuries from rubber bullets. Another report stated that five others were wounded in Rafah and Jabalyah. The IDF [Israel Defense Forces] spokesman said that a check of local hospitals last night revealed no registration or reports of wounded.

[Another Tel Aviv HADASHOT report by Mikhal Qedem on page 1 adds: "According to Arab sources, a group of masked Gaza Strip strike committee members used a knife to cut off the ear of a 30-year-old Rafah woman whom they had apparently suspected of collaborating with the authorities and of prostitution." The report goes on to say that "in recent months, five cases were reported in which strike committee members had cut off the ears of residents suspected of collaboration and of acquiring magnetic identity cards against the orders of the Unified National Command of the Uprising."

Tel Aviv MA'ARIV in Hebrew on 6 September in a report by Avino'am Bar-Yosef and Uri Binder on pages A1 and 2 adds: "'Amran al-Khatib, 33, from the village of Kafr Ni'mah near Ramallah, was attacked by masked individuals. Villagers claimed he had been known to have ties with the Israeli authorities." Elsewhere, the report states that "the Gaza military court yesterday sentenced two youths convicted of throwing Molotov cocktails at Arabs working in Israel to 4 years in prison. The two also received a 1-year suspended sentence."]

Two Molotov cocktails were hurled at a factory building in an industrial zone in the Gaza Strip near the Erez checkpoint. The bottles, which were thrown by masked individuals, exploded and burned on the road without causing either damage or injuries. An investigation was launched.

The IDF has lifted the curfew in the village of Talluza imposed in the wake of a serious incident in which an Army truck was attacked, causing its driver to flee. According to Arab sources, since all the village youths had escaped to the mountains, no one was arrested in the wake of the incident.

The curfew in Nabulus was lifted for 3 hours yesterday to enable locals to stock up on food. The curfew had been imposed on Saturday morning in the wake of disturbances that broke out after two strike committee members were killed and three others arrested. The parents of the two dead men refused to receive condolence visits, not having been able to see their sons' bodies or place of burial.

According to Arab sources, violent clashes erupted when the curfew was lifted in Nabulus, mainly in the old city and the Rafidiyah area. Al-Ittihad Hospital later reported admitting two slightly wounded locals, Zaffar Ahmad (15) and Thawri Salah (19), who were wounded by IDF gunfire. The hospital further reported treating Amjar 'Abd al-Rahman (14) and Sa'id Yusuf (55) from al-Far'ah refugee camp, who was injured in the leg by a plastic bullet. A woman from the Tulkarm refugee camp was slightly wounded by a rubber bullet.

Official military sources confirmed that two Nabulus residents and one Bayta resident were wounded, saying that the three sustained their injuries during stoning incidents.

Yesterday the IDF conducted initiated activities in various West Bank locations. In the village of Ya'bad, some 25 homes of wanted men were searched, after which soldiers marked the doors of the houses. Some 20 wanted residents of the village of Bayt Iba were detained in the initiated activity. In the village of Kifl Harith, the Army escorted a tax-collecting operation. About 20 people who owe taxes were detained.] [passage omitted]

[Tel Aviv YEDI'OT AHARONOT in Hebrew on 6 September in a page 2 report by Gabi Brunn adds: "The Jerusalem District court yesterday sentenced Yaron Yona (22) from Jerusalem to 8 months in prison. This followed a plea bargain as a result of which he was convicted of stoning an Arab truck and damaging its windshield."

Tel Aviv 'AL HAMISHMAR in Hebrew on 6 September in a page 20 ITIM report states: "The security forces have served a 6-month administrative detention order against Palestinian journalist and translator 'Ata al-Qaymuri from Bayt Hanina in East Jerusalem."]

## Total of 18 Schools Closed; Curfew Update

*TA0709121189 Tel Aviv IDF Radio in Hebrew 1100 GMT 7 Sep 89*

[Text] The Civil Administration closed another school in Judaea and Samaria today. This brings the number of schools closed in Judaea and Samaria to 18. Our correspondent in the territories, 'Ido Shargil, reports:

The Civil Administration has shut down 13 schools in Judaea and Samaria over the last 3 days. This brings the number of schools closed up to 18, only 2 months after studies resumed.

Today the elementary school for girls in the al-Jalazun refugee camp near Ramallah was closed. Four schools were shut down yesterday, while eight were ordered closed 2 days ago. In all instances, the schools were closed because of stone-throwing incidents in which pupils were involved. It must be said, however, that despite the seemingly high number of closed schools, approximately 1,000 schools are still operating in Judaea and Samaria, so we are only talking about a small percentage.

In Nabulus and the adjacent refugee camps of Balatah, 'Askar, and 'Ayn Bayt al-Ma, the curfew imposed on 2 September remains in force. The market area in Bethlehem was closed off after a soldier was moderately injured when struck by a stone. He was operated upon last night and is still hospitalized in Hadassah 'En-Kerem Hospital in Jerusalem.

### Crown Prince, Princess Leave for Washington

*JN0809115289 Amman Domestic Service in English 1100 GMT 8 Sep 89*

[Text] His royal highness the crown prince and Her Royal Highness Princess Tharwat left Amman this morning on an official visit to the United States due to last 5 days.

His majesty the king, members of the royal family, the prime minister, and high-ranking officials were at the airport to bid farewell to their highnesses.

The crown prince will meet in Washington President George Bush, the vice president, and the secretaries of state, treasury, and agriculture. The crown prince will speak about the situation in the Arab region and the suffering of the Palestinians under the Israeli occupation. The crown prince will also review results of the implementation of financial and economic reform program in Jordan.

Also during his visit to Washington, the crown prince will be meeting officials at the World Bank and the International Monetary Fund and will deliver speeches at universities and other academic institutions.

### PDRY Chairman To Visit Amman 9 Sep

*JN0709183089 Amman Television Service in Arabic 1700 GMT 7 Sep 89*

[Text] The Royal Hashemite Court has issued the following statement: In response to His Majesty King Husayn's invitation, His Excellency Haydar Abu-Bakr al-'Attas, chairman of the Supreme People's Presidium in the People's Democratic Republic of Yemen [PDRY], will pay an official visit to the Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan.

The visit will last several days beginning Saturday, 9 September 1989. During the visit, his excellency will hold talks with his brother His Majesty King Husayn and senior Jordanian officials on Arab and international affairs. The leaders also will discuss the promotion of bilateral relations and joint cooperation between the two fraternal countries.

### Columnist Lauds Fahd for Postponing U.S. Visit

*JN0709162889 Amman AL-RAY in Arabic 7 Sep 89 p 24*

["An Arab Opinion" column by Mahmud al-Rimawi: "Washington and Postponed Dates"]

[Text] Whatever comes from an Arab leader's failure to go ahead with a planned visit to Washington, such a move will be a step in the right direction and ought to be supported. The decision by King Fahd of Saudi Arabia not to take up the invitation to visit Washington, scheduled for about this time, is opportune.

In explaining the second postponement of the scheduled trip, the Saudi move was said to have been prompted by frustration at a lack of serious American movement toward a resolution of the Middle East crisis. The second postponement of the visit, due to have taken place in July 1989, reportedly had to do with the Lebanese situation and the urgent need to revive the efforts of the Higher Arab Committee on Lebanon. The reasons cited for putting off the visits suggest that a trip at this point in time would prove pointless and redundant.

The thread linking the Middle East conflict and the Lebanese crisis lies in the Israeli occupation of parts of southern Lebanon since the summer of 1982 and in the Israeli Air Force raids that have been trampling on Lebanon's sovereignty. The United States, however, refuses to see the link and act accordingly. It will not throw its weight behind implementation of UN Security Council Resolution 425, which calls for the withdrawal of Israeli forces of aggression from southern Lebanon—repeated U.S. statements on the need for the withdrawal of foreign forces from Lebanon notwithstanding. The United States may be the country whose role in Lebanon is questioned most by virtually all parties involved in the conflict. Consider what happened to the American Embassay in Beirut recently. While France and the USSR stress the withdrawal of the Israeli forces in the context of the departure of all foreign troops from Lebanon and a reassertion of state control over all the country's territories, the United States has been fudging the issue, pleading the intricate nature of the Lebanese crisis, when in actual fact the intricacy lies in the ambiguity of the future of American interests or influence in the solutions being proposed.

Regarding the Palestinian question, Washington seems to insist on using the dialogue with the PLO to pressure, blackmail, and wring concessions from the Palestinian side and, in the meantime, it supports Israel's settlement projects. Where the Middle East is concerned, the United States sees things only through Israel's eyes and from its perspective. As such, the U.S. position lends itself neither to helping resolve the Lebanese crisis, nor to offering Middle East peace initiatives that would guarantee the basic rights and vital interests of all parties concerned.

It is, therefore, right that the Saudi monarch should have twice decided to put off a visit to Washington. It will be a further step in the right direction if the Saudi monarch should postpone a Washington visit for a third time, as long as the United States remains unable or unwilling to free itself from the Israeli stranglehold.

## General 'Awn Criticizes U.S. Embassy Withdrawal

*NC0709182589 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 1420 GMT 7 Sep 89*

[Report on a news conference by General Michel 'Awn on 7 September; place not given—recorded]

[Text] [Begin 'Awn recording] It is extremely regrettable that U.S-Lebanese relations have reached this stage of deterioration as a result of the intransigence of the U.S. Embassy in Beirut, which is backed by a biased and shortsighted foreign policy.

It is even more regrettable to see the U.S. State Department base its decision to withdraw the members of its mission from Beirut on rumors, incorrect assumptions, and unconvincing reasons. In this way it has sought to justify its withdrawal to the American public, and avoid being questioned or brought to account later for its dual policy and for running away from confrontation of the aggressive acts carried out against the victim, by making the victim itself the cause of withdrawal and flight.

In light of this falsification of reality and events, we have to record certain realities and established facts, particularly since the name of Prime Minister General 'Awn was actually mentioned in the State Department's statement.

First, we have to remind some that, during Gen 'Awn's command of the Lebanese Army, and later when he became prime minister as well, he was, and has remained, extremely rigorous in ensuring the security of the American Embassy and the American nationals in Lebanon. He has protected their security in the same way as he has protected the Lebanese themselves, if not more. This is because they are dear guests. This fact is addressed to Ambassadors Bartholomew, Kelly, and McCarthy himself through the media. I am fully confident that they will testify to the truth and admit that Gen 'Awn has always sent his elite officers and soldiers to guard their safety and the safety of their embassy and nationals.

Second, I do not want to ask how many Americans have been killed in the liberated areas, or how may hostages have been taken, because there have been absolutely no victims or hostages in these areas since the beginning of the incidents. No American has been obstructed or hurt by barbed wire. What I would, however, like to ask is: With what warmth, friendliness, and fraternity were the Americans received in the homes of the Lebanese in this area? We are proud of this, because every Lebanese family has relatives in the United States who are struggling and building like any American citizen and defending the higher interests of the United States. Most of these are Americans, just like Ambassador McCarthy.

Third, we deeply regret that the United States should find its excuses in the words uttered by journalists, or in a wrong reading of the French LE FIGARO, added to the panic and fears of certain employees arising from their memories of Iranian terrorism, or from nightmares assailing their imagination after they have witnessed Syrian brutality and barbarianism. The Americans attribute all this to Gen 'Awn and the Christians in order to justify their withdrawal.

We are determined to maintain freedoms in Lebanon, including the freedom to demonstrate freely against the policy of U.S. collusion with Syria. Syria is the epitome of terrorism and drugs, and the reverse of all that the State Department is saying. What the latter is doing is giving false evidence, rather than supporting right and freedom. I do not know after all this if I can make any sense of President Bush's statement that he is ready to assist every country that is combatting drugs, since contradiction has become the name of U.S. foreign policy.

We closed the ports used for smuggling. Both Christians and Muslims applauded us. But Syrian-U.S. collusion accused us of blockading the Muslims who were the first to applaud and express support. This collusion went on to exert pressure to have these ports reopened. The U.S. Administration then remained silent over the blockading of the free areas and contented itself with shedding a few crocodile tears. It also remained silent when the free decision-making center in Lebanon was shelled. That was the center which stood up against occupation, terrorism, and drugs and called for the implementation of the Arab and UN charters and international laws and norms. They did not want to help and only permitted any assistance to the extent that their deals allowed them to. These deals were done at the expense of right, conscience, the values of justice and freedom, and the people's right to sovereignty and independence.

We are not here to enumerate all the mistakes of U.S. policy in Lebanon. What we have already mentioned is enough.

The Lebanese people in general, as a result of blood ties, free thinking, and a common commitment to the values and principles of human rights, will always remain a friend to the U.S. people. Gen 'Awn, in particular, in view of his responsible position, will also continue to extend the hand of friendship to the Americans, while calling for a responsible American stand that would safeguard common principles and interests. However, there must be open-mindedness, and the U.S. Administration must realize that no hand of agentry will ever be extended from Lebanon to the United States or vice versa.

Finally, I emphasize that there was no need for this decision, the motives and background of which are known. I seize this opportunity to address an invitation to all Americans, be they officials, newsmen, senators, representatives, or citizens, to visit the free areas in Lebanon. They will find that this negative U.S. measure unfairly equates a free area with occupied Lebanese areas in order to give false testimony and to justify the withdrawal of the biggest power from the hardest battle being waged by a weak civilized people against a barbaric

occupation that disregards all international laws and conventions. [end recording]

In reply to questions raised by foreign correspondents, Gen 'Awn said: I am not prepared to get involved in maneuvers. I am waging a war which I want to win in order to regain the state.

Commenting on the U.S. State Department's statement, Gen 'Awn said this statement is much less dangerous than the 240-mm shells which are falling on the Lebanese. He added that this statement is the fruit of the failure to subjugate the steadfast Lebanese and is based on false rumors, distorted facts, and hidden propaganda.

Gen 'Awn asked the U.S. people and their representatives to ignore the U.S. State Department's policy, which was inscribed on stone by Kissinger and seems to have remained unchanged until now. He affirmed that the required U.S. support should be given to Lebanese—both Christians and Muslims—in their liberation war.

### Al-Huss Regrets Pullout From U.S. Embassy

*NC0709104289 (Clandestine) Voice of the Mountain in Arabic to Lebanon 0900 GMT 7 Sep 89*

[Text] Prime Minister Dr Salim al-Huss has expressed regret that the U.S. Embassy in Beirut has been closed and denounced the practices that led to its closure.

In a statement to REUTER, Dr al-Huss said: We hope that this closure will not last long and that the U.S. ambassador and all the embassy staff will return to Lebanon. We also hope that all foreign diplomatic missions compelled by the circumstances in Lebanon to leave will also return.

Asked about the Arab Committee's resumption of its task, Dr al-Huss said: We have always been among those calling on the committee to resume its salvational efforts. We now welcome this step and hope that it will bring everything good for Lebanon and the Lebanese. The prime minister added: On this occasion, we can only renew our absolute commitment to cooperate with the honorable Arab Committee in its quest to extricate Lebanon from its crisis.

### 'Awn Demands Participation in Peace Dialogue

*NC0709172789 (Clandestine) Radio Free Lebanon in Arabic 1545 GMT 7 Sep 89*

[Text] In a press interview, General Michel 'Awn has affirmed that calling on the Lebanese parties to begin a dialogue while still under Syrian occupation and guns poses a challenge to him to prove to everyone Syria's determination to impede the dialogue for achieving a national accord.

He said: We have overcome the difficult stage and the big military danger. These are behind us now. The solution to the Lebanese problem has in fact started, unless the Syrian regime becomes crazy and desperate and then attempts to sabotage the solution. He added that the Syrian regime will pay a heavier price than we will if it does not accept the solution.

Gen 'Awn said: At any rate, I will continue to fight alone until the end, until the solution, liberation, and victory are achieved. Syria's defeat in Lebanon is a historic inevitability, though we are not seeking its defeat but the restoration of our sovereignty, independence, and freedom.

He attacked the United States, saying: Israel, Syria, and the United States have turned the Lebanese people into their own football. He announced his rejection of the revival of the U.S.-Syrian dialogue on Lebanon and said whoever wants to talk about Lebanon must come to us.

Gen 'Awn added: The Syrian regime tried to create a new fait accompli in Suq al-Gharb but was stopped. We hope that it will not attempt it again because it will get slapped again. It is the only regime that has achieved the aims of Zionism in the Middle East.

### 'Awn Officers Said Caught With Drugs in Cyprus

*NC0709130489 (Clandestine) Voice of the Mountain in Arabic to Lebanon 1130 GMT 7 Aug 89*

[Text] Informed sources today revealed that a number of officers from the al-Yarzah clique were stopped on charges of possession of drugs at Larnaca airport 2 weeks ago while on their way to the United States. The same sources add that the commander of the clique, General Michel 'Awn, asked the Cypriot authorities to release the officers and hand them over to him to bring them to trial. According to 'Awn, there could be an organized operation against him to accuse his officers of drug trafficking at a time when he is requesting support for his campaign at home against terrorism and drug smuggling from Lebanon.

The sources add that the Cypriot authorities returned the officers to Lebanon. Two days later they decided to stop trips betwen Larnaca and Juniyah and prevented helicopters from landing at Larnaca, on the grounds that these helicopters were being used for transporting ammunitions and light arms.

The sources further disclose that the names of the officers were relayed to U.S. security quarters after a number of U.S. security officials had contacted the junta commander Michel 'Awn to ask him about the matter. The U.S. officials told him: You are requesting our support for your decision to close the ports that you believe had been used to smuggle narcotics, while some of your officers are trying to get them to the United States. According to the sources, 'Awn was greatly embarassed and responded angrily to the U.S. officials, accusing them of planning the operation. The sources add that this issue further comlicated things between 'Awn and the United States and embarassed him before some of his officers, who have been against his liberation war right from the start.

### Druze Leader on Opposition to Michel 'Awn

*AU0709171389 Vienna DIE PRESSE in German 7 Sep 89 p 4*

[Charles van der Leeuw report: "Not a Morsel of Power to Michel 'Awn"]

[Text] Mukhtarah—The route from Beirut to the al-Shuf mountain range, which is ruled by the Druze, makes an enormous sweep around the border of Suq al-Gharb, through Western Beirut, and Beirut's southern suburbs. Half way along the highway to Sa'idah, one has to turn left toward Mukhtarah, where Walid Junblatt, head of the Progressive Socialist Party (PSP) receives us in his palace.

Two weeks ago, PSP militia soldiers kept the outpost of their Maronite enemies occupied for half a day, where in the evening Christian artillery chased them out of the village Suq al-Gharb, which had been shot to ruins. It was the second time that General Michel 'Awn, the leader of the enclave of East Beirut, which is dominated by Maronites, had not failed to handle a breakthrough on his territory.

"Militarily, politically, and in all other respects, we are still in the same dead end as before," Walid Junblatt admits, "even though the incident around Suq al-Gharb taught us that Michel 'Awn has perhaps better cannons, but we have better, more courageous, and better motivated people."

From the political point of view, Junblatt's dead end consists of the fact that after 6 months of bitter fighting, he refuses to talk to 'Awn, even though he says: "We, that is, our coalition of Druze, Shiites, nationalist Christians, and leftist parties, are now ready to seriously discuss a Lebanese postwar society based on democracy and equal rights with complete separation of denomination and citizenship with any leader or representative from East Beirut." He mentions above all that state and other functions should no longer be distributed by denominations and that one's denomination should no longer be noted in identity cards. "Of course, there will also be compromises; there is only one issue in which we will never be ready for a compromise: Never, I repeat, never, will anyone of us be willing to grant one single morsel of power to 'Awn and his military junta. It should be clear that the majority of the Lebanese people do not want a military dictatorship and do not in any way want to make Lebanon an anti-Syrian bastion."

Today the Syrians have stationed 33,000 security troops in Lebanon, who support Junblatt and his coalition partners in their struggle against Michael 'Awn's troops. 'Awn, categorically anti-Syrian, is looking for support from anyone he finds at his side. This includes Iraq, whose President Saddam Husayn has repeatedly admitted helping 'Awn with arms shipments and money to "thwart the Syrian aggression and the hegemonism in Lebanon."

"If Saddam Husayn wants to wage a war because of his hostility toward the Syrian Government, he should do this at his northern border with Syria instead of ruining us. Our links with Syria are historical, political, cultural, and military. Lebanon cannot be turned into an anti-Syrian cell," the Druze leader says, getting excited.

In the meantime, a break has occurred in the artillery fight between east and west in Beirut because of various international efforts. Soviet "shuttle diplomat" Tarasov has repeatedly tried in Beirut to bring about Lebanese reconciliation, while the French fleet continues to wait, ready for action, to start a "humanitarian mission."

"Humanitarian...?" Junblatt rages. "Since when are humanitarian missions carried out with armed ships? Everyone knows that the French, who call themselves the defenders of freedom and justice and who this year even celebrate 200 years of human rights, are essentially doing nothing more than repeat their colonial policy of the 19th century. First the Byzantines, then the Ottomans, later the French, and then the Americans tried to turn Lebanon into a segregated state ruled by Maronites, and every time the efforts ended in an enormous fiasco. "Now we have had enough and we will prevent them from carrying out their 'mission of civilization.'" Junblatt threatens, and adds: "If the French Government wants the dispatch of their fleet to be useful, they should take away Michel 'Awn...."

### Hizballah Delegation, Birri Discuss Alliance

*NC0709083989 (Clandestine) Voice of the Oppressed in Arabic to Lebanon 0530 GMT 7 Sep 89*

[Text] A delegation from the Hizballah leadership comprising his eminence Shaykh Subhi al-Tufayli and Haj 'Abd-al-Hadi Hamadah has called on Minister Nabih Birri, who pointed out that the meeting took place to discuss deepening the alliance between the Amal Movement and Hizballah. His eminence Shaykh Subhi al-Tufayli said after the meeting that next week will witness a practical translation of the agreement between Hizballah and the Amal Movement.

### Foreign Ministry on Nonaligned Summit Statement

*NC0809090789 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 0800 GMT 8 Sep 89*

[Text] A responsible source at the Foreign Ministry made the following statement today:

Some media have reported that the Lebanese ambassador in Belgrade expressed reservations about the nonaligned states summit communique. The Foreign Ministry emphasizes that this stand is contrary to its instructions. The necessary measures have been taken to notify the summit's chairmanship and secretariat of this.

### Shelling Kills 1, Wounds 10; Cuban Embassy Hit

*NC0709080189 Beirut Voice of National Resistance in Arabic 0430 GMT 7 Sep 89*

[Text] The al-Yarzah army escalated the security situation at dawn today when it began indiscriminate shelling of the residential areas in West Beirut and its Southern Suburb. It shelled the areas of Cola, Corniche al-Mazra'ah, al-Barbir, 'Ayn al-Muraysah, the Military Beach, the vicinity of al-Hamra, al-Manarah, Jall al-Bahr, Ra's Bayrut, the vicinity of the American University, al-Rawshah, 'Ayn al-Tinah, Verdun, al-Qantari, Quraytim, Burj al- Barajinah, al-Raml al-'Ali, and the airport road.

Two persons were wounded in al-Musaytibah, and the Cuban Embassy Building in 'Ayn al-Tinah was hit.

The areas of Shwit.(al-Zahhar), al-'Abbadiyah, al-Shuwayfat, Baysur, and Kayfun in the mountain were also attacked.

Intermittent clashes involving automatic weapons and rockets had taken place in the capital, the suburb, and the mountain last night.

Media in the eastern area reported that shells fell on the coast of Kasrawan, al-Ashrafiyah, and al-Hadath at dawn today.

In yesterday's shelling, one person was killed and 10 others were wounded.

AFP has reported that 781 persons have been killed and 3,672 others wounded since 'Awn declared his destructive war.

### Clashes Reported in Beirut, Suburb, Mountain

*NC0709193289 (Clandestine) Radio Free Lebanon in Arabic 1845 GMT 7 Sep 89*

[Text] Isolated clashes involving the use of light- and medium- caliber machine guns were reported along the al-Duwwar and al-'Ayrun lines at 2115. At 2237, the fighting became fiercer, and various weapons, particularly tank guns, were used. Flares are being dropped in the area of the clashes .

A shell landed in the Sami al-Sulh area in the capital at 2140, while intermittent clashes took place along the Sodeco, Primo, and Ra's al-Nab' lines. Shells and machine gun fire are reaching as far as the fringes of al-Ashrafiyah. Flares are also being dropped in the area.

In the meantime, tension prevails along the suburb lines as far as al-Hadath and al-Laylakah. The Suq al-Gharb-'Aytat line in the mountain area is also tense.

### Organization Claims Attack on Syrian Vehicle

*NC0709103689 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 0715 GMT 07 Sep 89*

[Text] The 16 January Organization for the Liberation of Tripoli has announced that one of its armed groups ambushed a Syrian military jeep on the Tripoli-Zgharta highway at 2120 yesterday and opened fire at its passengers, wounding the driver and Hasan Zaydan, a paratroop captain in the Syrian Special Units. According to some security reports from the north, Captain Zaydan was taken to al-Qulay'at airport by ambulance and then transported by military plane to a hospital in Damascus.

### Resistance Attacks Militia Patrol in South

*NC0809090889 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 0800 GMT 8 Sep 89*

[Text] Various lines of confrontation in the capital and on the Mountain are calm, except for sporadic sniper fire. Meanwhile, intermittent clashes are taking place on the al-Tayyunah lines in Beirut's southern Suburb.

Violent clashes involving tanks, automatic weapons, and rockets took place along the al-Madfun front at dawn today.

Meanwhile, traffic can be seen at the open crossing points between the two sectors of the capital.

In the resisting south, resistance fighters detonated an antivehicle land mine as a patrol of agent Lahd's militia was passing near the town of Umm al-Tut in the western sector of the occupied border strip at dawn today. A patrol vehicle was destroyed, and everyone on board was wounded in the explosion. A helicopter flying over the scene of the explosion evacuated the wounded to hospitals in the occupied territories.

### Israeli, Resistance Activities in South Reported

*NC0809081289 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 0430 GMT 8 Sep 89*

[Text] In an attempt to put fear in the hearts of the people in the occupied border strip, the Israeli occupation authorities have resorted to new measures to boost the low morale of agent Lahd's desertion-ridden militia.

It has been reported that an Israeli intelligence force has surrounded the town of Yarin in the occupied border strip, stormed a number of houses there, and arrested three youths from the Sari family. Three Israeli helicopters dropped leaflets over the villages and towns in the occupied southern area, warning the people against cooperating with the resistance fighters.

People arriving from the south report that the Israeli authorities have notified hospital officials in the occupied border strip that they must report every casualty and not allow any wounded person to leave the hospital until he has been interrogated.

According to information from Marj 'Uyun, occupation forces stormed the town of al-Tayyibah and took 15 youths to the border militia's compulsory recruitment camp.

Occupation forces arrested 'Ali 'Id Hammud, an al-Tayyibah resident, at the Kafr Tibnit crossing point 2 days ago, and seized his Mercedes, which he drives between Beirut and the border strip.

The town of al-Hassaniyah east of Sidon has come under sniper fire from occupation force positions in Kafr Falus. The outskirts of the town of Jarju' have also come under 82-mm mortar fire from occupation forces positions in the town of Sujud.

According to security information, an Israeli force in Majdal Zun in the western sector in the south arrested Musa Yusuf Salman and took him to the occupied area.

Helicopters flew over the areas of al-Jarmaq, al-'Ayshiyah, and al-Rayhan at dawn yesterday, while an Israeli winch was towing a vehicle which was destroyed by resistance fighters in an operation in the al-Jarmaq valley 3 days ago.

Regarding Lebanese resistance groups, Amal says one of its units has attacked the positions of 'Alman and al-Shumariyah with automatic weapons, rockets, and 82-mm mortars.

Resistance fighters also attacked an Israeli military convoy en route to the Mount Hermon slopes. The number of enemy casualties could not be determined because of the security cordon and a helicopter-supported combing operation being carried out in the surrounding valleys and mountains by the occupation forces.

### Israeli Convoy Attacked Near Mount Hermon

*NC0709164689 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1530 GMT 7 Sep 89*

[Text] In the resisting South, a group of resistance men carried out a daring attack this morning on an Israeli military convoy which was heading toward the slopes of Mount Hermon. Rockets and machine guns were used in the operation. There have been no immediate reports on the losses inflicted on the Zionists because of a security cordon that was immediately thrown around the scene of operation. Shortly afterward, Israeli forces, with the support of helicopters, raked the area in search of the resistance men.

## Syria Sets Conditions for Pullout From Lebanon

*JN0709065289 Amman AKHBAR AL-USBU' in Arabic 7 Sep 89 pp 1, 23*

["Exclusive"]

[Text] Belgrade—Syrian President Hafiz al-Asad has told Moroccan King Hassan II, Algerian President Chadli Bendjedid, and Libyan leader Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi through Vice President 'Abd-al-Halim Khaddam that the Syrian forces will withdraw from Lebanon, despite the Muslims' insistence on their stay there, if Israel withdraws from south Lebanon and if General Michel 'Awn, head of the military government, resigns. He asked them to exert efforts in both the Arab and international arenas to force Israel to withdraw from south Lebanon.

Michel 'Awn had earlier said he would resign his post as head of government if Syria declared its readiness to withdraw.

## Defense Minister Meets Visiting Soviet Commander

*JN0709144689 Damascus SANA in Arabic 1415 GMT 7 Sep 89*

[Text] Damascus, 7 Sep (SANA) — General Mustafa Talas, deputy commander in chief of the Army and Armed Forces, deputy prime minister, and minister of defense, met this afternoon with Colonel General Vladimir Mikhaylovich Mikhalkin, commander [title as received] for rocket and artillery troops, and with members of the military delegation accompanying him and currently visiting Syria.

Talks between the two sides centered on developing bilateral relations between the two friendly countries and on mutual issues concerning the development and improvement of the combat capacity of the Syrian Arab Army.

## Radio Says 'Awn 'Declared War' on U.S. Embassy

*JN0709135889 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1130 GMT 7 Sep 89*

[Station commentary]

[Text] Gentlemen, in the same way that the al-Yarzah General Michel 'Awn has terrorized the deputies and prominent figures in the eastern sector [of Beirut], whether by direct threats, siege, or planting bombs, he thought he could terrorize the Western embassies in Beirut, especially since the military aid he was hoping for did not arrive and Western governments did not show any interest in his destructive war. On the contrary, they criticized him secretly and publicly and saw his policy as a direct threat to the Maronite sect in Lebanon.

If we exclude France, which nearly fell into the trap but then realized the facts, the European governments in general were careful not to get involved in the general's war. This was also the case with the current U.S. Administration. The Westerners were well aware that the general's war had no aim other than to turn back the clock and drag them into the swamp of the Lebanese conflict, as happened during the Israeli invasion of Lebanon in 1982. The Westerners also knew very well that 'Awn's shelling of the nationalist and Islamic regions in this destructive and crazy manner would cause a reaction, and that due to this shelling and counter-shelling, the same old tune of the threat to the Christians' existence would be played in preparation for involving the West in general, and the United States and France in particular, in the Lebanese conflict.

As the Westerners learned their lessons from past involvement, they also found out the truth about the Lebanese situation. These facts are that the Maronite sect does not represent all Christians. The Christians in general are bound to their environment, nation, and true Arab heritage. And in no way does 'Awn represent the Maronite sect. Some of the leaders of this group are at the forefront of patriotic action and are used as an example of commitment to the ideals of Arabism. The Westerners also felt very keenly that the Maronite deputies and figures were overpowered and subjected to blackmail and terrorism. They are awaiting the day when they can extend their hands to their brothers on the western side [of Beirut] to end the crisis and build the new Lebanon.

The Westerners, out of their experience with the Lebanese crisis, have realized that the solution lies in a national accord, and that the latter requires reforming the existing institutions, abolishing the system of priorities, and creating greater equality among the citizens.

Seen from this perspective, what 'Awn is proposing complicates the crisis, leads the Lebanese to further tragedies, and threatens the future of the Maronite sect itself.

Therefore, after declaring war on the nationalist and Islamic regions, 'Awn declared war on the U.S. Embassy since he believes that the United States leads the Western world and sets its policies. He sent his men to besiege the embassy and threatened to take hostages. He is demanding direct U.S. military intervention and asking them to become a party to the war declared against the vast majority of Lebanon and Syria. He is asking the Americans to put pressure on their allies to send military aid to his forces. At the same time he is asking that the French fleet be placed at his disposal.

He wants his war to become a Western war against Syria and the Lebanese. He wants planes, destroyers, and missiles to hit the Lebanese and Syrian forces. He wants everything but Lebanese national accord and the political and social reforms it requires. Since the Americans withdrew their embassy from Beirut, it is not unlikely that others will follow. The al-Yarzah general has said more than once that he will not have peace of mind until Beirut and the other regions are destroyed.

If the Lebanese in the eastern sector are more affected than others by the general's policy, especially since he is trading in their blood and property, then the situation requires dotting the i's and crossing the t's and ending 'Awn's belligerence. In addition, the Arab committee, which is currently preparing to resume its activities in response to the calls of the Lebanese, Arabs, and international community, is called upon to resume its efforts and adhere to the Casablanca resolutions to start off on the right foot and achieve sound results.

Nobody—in the Arab region nor in the rest of world—denies that the solution to the Lebanese crisis lies in resuming the dialogue that was cut off between the Lebanese and realizing national accord based on sound and correct foundations of political and social reform. This requires isolating those calling for war and violence, the agents of Israel, and preparing the atmosphere for those calling for calm, reconciliation, and accord—those who are truly concerned about Lebanon and the region.

## Afghanistan

### Rebels Attack, Block Huge Convoy to Qandahar

*BK0709134689 Hong Kong AFP in English 1321 GMT 7 Sep 89*

[Text] Islamabad, Sep 7 (AFP)—A huge army convoy carrying food and ammunition for troops besieged in southern Qandahar has lost more than 100 vehicles in its attempt to reach the city, resistance sources said Thursday [7 September].

Mujahidin guerrillas besieging government troops in the second biggest Afghan city have blocked the route and the convoy has lost at least 108 tanks and trucks in one week, the sources said. At least 15 tanks and trucks were destroyed in the latest clash at Yakhchal, 110 kms (66 miles) west of Qandahar, on Tuesday, the sources added.

In four days of clashes last week, between August 30 and September 2, mujahidin were reported to have destroyed 93 tanks and trucks. Most of the convoy was still at Grishk, 140 kms (88 miles) west of Qandahar, the sources said, denying a Kabul government claim that it was close to its destination. The destruction so far had been in mujahidin operations between Shindand Air Base and Grishk, the sources said.

Contradicting an official Afghan statement that the convoy was at Maywand, 80 kms (48 miles) west of Qandahar, the sources said "the place is too small" to hold the 30 kms (18 mile) long convoy. Government control ends one kilometre from the town, which is surrounded by gardens and orchards, they said.

"The real story could begin when it enters Maywand as mujahidin have well equipped hideouts in the area," a source familiar with the region said.

(A government spokesman in Kabul said Friday that the convoy had been attacked "two or three times" but had lost only a tank and two trucks along the exposed 700-kilometre (420-mile) long trek from the Soviet border to Maywand. He "absolutely" denied mujahidin reports of heavy losses.)

Other resistance sources said "mujahidin determined to foil the regime bid to resupply its troops" have already taken up positions along the last stretch up to Qandahar.

According to diplomats, the convoy included some 200 Soviet-made tanks and more than 1,000 vehicles loaded with tons of weapons and ammunition badly needed by the troops in Qandahar.

"Mujahidin know its importance" as the convoy had supplies sufficient for six months, a resistance source said. He said if the rebels succeeded in denying the supplies the besieged forces would be compelled to surrender. The Afghan Government has been employing dozens of military planes to provide air cover to the convoy and resistance sources maintained that the difficult journey was still fraught with more dangers.

Guerrillas Tuesday attacked Shindand Air Base, destroying four jets besides blowing up an ammunition depot, the sources said. The convoy had arrived at Shindand Base from the Soviet Union on August 26 after crossing the Afghan border at Towraghondi on August 23.

### Ulumi Says Over 1,000 Rebels 'Crushed' in Khowst

*LD0709204889 Kabul Domestic Service in Dari 1600 GMT 7 Sep 89*

[Text] A news conference was held [words indistinct] on the political-military situation of the country and gains of the Armed Forces of the Republic of Afghanistan.

The BAKHTAR military section reports that at this news conference Major General 'Abdul Haq Ulumi, secretary of the Supreme Defense Council of the Homeland, briefed the participants on repulsing attacks by the militarists of Pakistan [words indistinct] on Khowst Major District and gains of the courageous Armed Forces in this district, and answered their questions.

The secretary of the Supreme Defense Council said that during the past 15 days 96 ringleaders of the extremists, 23 Saudi mercenaries, 42 Pakistani militarists, and and over 1,000 men of the extremist groups were crushed in the surroundings of Khowst Major District and the enemy has retreated.

Maj Gen 'Abdul Haq Ulumi also briefed the journalists about the supply convoy which is on its way from Towraghondi on the border to Qandahar Province and rejected the hollow and baseless claims of the extremist groups as described by Western media about placing obstacles in the way of this supply convoy, which is carrying basic materials needed by the citizens of Qandahar. He regarded as baseless the claims made by the extremist groups and their supporters.

Maj Gen Ulumi added that any attempt by any extremist group to place an obstacle in the way of this supply convoy has been crushed before it had any chance of success. The convoy arrived in Qandahar Province and is making its way toward the city of Qandahar without any obstacle.

During this press conference the secretary of the Supreme Defense Council of the Homeland replied to the questions raised by domestic and foreign journalists about the military situation in Nangarhar and Qandahar Provinces as well as in Khowst Major District.

### Air Force Receives MiG-29's From Soviet Union

*BK0809000289 Hong Kong AFP in English 1719 GMT 7 Sep 89*

[Text] Kabul, Sept 7 (AFP)—The Afghan Air Force has received delivery of new MiG-29 and Sukhoi-27 fighter bombers from the Soviet Union, a senior Afghan general said Thursday [7 September]. "These are right now in our hands, but we have not needed to use them," Gen.

'Abdul Haq Ulumi, secretary of the Supreme Council for Defence of the Homeland, told foreign journalists at a news conference here.

Gen. Ulumi, also the Armed Forces representative in the Central Committee of the ruling People's Democratic Party of Afghanistan, said last month that the new planes were promised "in the event of a threat from the Pakistan border." He made no further comment on the delivery, nor did he specify how many planes the Air Force had received or where they were based.

The Afghan Air Force has to date relied mainly MiG-21 fighters which, along with long-range Soviet-supplied Scud missiles, have been used heavily in the defence of the eastern cities of Khowst and Jalalabad.

The Afghan Army last month received a new rocket, the Lunar-M, from the Soviet Union, and diplomatic sources here said it had been provided to fill a range gap between the Scud and shorter-range missiles. The Lunar-M is reported to have a range of up to 80 kilometres (50 miles).

Commenting on other military developments in Afghanistan, Gen. Ulumi said a massive 30-kilometre (18-mile) long convoy of about 1,000 trucks had started arriving in the southeastern city of Qandahar. The convoy, which other Afghan officials said numbered about 1,300 including armed escort vehicles, set out from the Soviet border more than one week ago.

A government spokesman said Wednesday that although it had been attacked "two to three times" along the 700-kilometre (435-mile) route, losses had been minimal.

Diplomats said here Thursday they also understood that losses had been low, and that they thought the column consisted mostly of weapons, with some food, and should keep Qandahar well supplied throughout the winter months.

Gen. Ulumi also said government forces in Khowst had broken the back of a mujahidin offensive launched 15 days ago, adding that troops were "back to former positions" in outposts taken in Tanai district at the start of the assault. "There was never fighting inside the city, maybe in the suburbs and outlying districts," he said.

## BAKHTAR Reports 6 Sep Military Situation

*LD0809100289 Kabul BAKHTAR in English 0424 GMT 8 Sep 89*

[Text] Kabul, Sept. 6, BAKHTAR—The joint forces of the enemy in the composition of which extremists, Pakistani militarymen and Saudi Wahhabi extremists are included attacked from different directions the Khowst Grand District during the past 24 hours, an authorised military source said.

The contingents and detachments of the Khowst garrison during their counter-attacks killed 18 and wounded 182 enemies. A number of Pakistani militarymen and armed Saudi Wahhabis are also included among those killed. Two service men and a civilian was killed and 8 others wounded during the clashes.

The source added that the extremist groupings supported by the 11th Pakistani Corps attacked security posts and residential areas of Samar Kheyl, Shaykh Misri [placename as received] and Behsud Districts, Nangarhar Province as well as Towr Kotal and Makoran [placename as received] areas, Qandahar and a soldier was killed and two others wounded.

According to another report during the mopping up operations of the armed forces carried out in the Kuh-e-Safid area, Kabul Province, 7 extremists were killed and 14 others wounded, during the said period.

A set of Sacker [as received] 20 rocket launcher, 20 heavy machine-guns, 6 mortars and 7 fortified positions of the enemy destroyed. Eighty mortar shells, 95 rockets, 9 cases of bullets, 3 cases of hand grenades and 7 cases of Kalashnikov bullets fell at the hand of the Armed Forces.

## BBC Reports 3 Pakistani Spies in Kabul Prison

*BK0509042389 London BBC World Service in English 0215 GMT 5 Sep 89*

[From the "Newsreel" program]

[Text] Three Pakistani prisoners in the Afghan capital Kabul have been telling journalists how they entered Afghanistan several years ago to conduct espionage or military activities. The three, who have been put on show in Kabul, also accused the Pakistani authorities of refusing to provide them with consular assistance. But as Lyce Doucet reports, Pakistan's charge d'affaires in Kabul says he had never been approached by the Afghan authorities about the matter.

[Begin Lyce Doucet recording] According to their own account, the three Pakistanis were arrested between 1981 and 1983 and sentenced to prison terms of up to 20 years for spying and terrorist activities. They said they had repeatedly asked to see Pakistani diplomats in Kabul, but were told their request was turned down. The diplomats denied they were Pakistanis. One prisoner maintained the Pakistani Government refused to recognize them because they had entered Afghanistan to conduct covert activities. But the Pakistani charge d'affaires in Kabul, (Hidayat Yunis), denied he had ever been approached by the Afghan authorities about their cases. He said the embassy had sent countless requests in recent years seeking access to any Pakistanis detained in Afghan jails. His correspondence, he added, had gone largely unanswered. But, he said an agreement was reached recently with Afghan authorities to allow each side access to a few prisoners detained in the other's jails, an accord which seems to indicate a reticence on both sides to fully disclose details of arrests, a sensitive issue between two countries whose relations have grown increasingly strained.

Why these Pakistanis should appear in public now is unclear, but some observers suggest that it was timed with the nonaligned summit in Belgrade—the meeting where the Afghan government is hoping to exert pressure on Pakistan to stop supporting the Afghan guerrillas. [end recording]

### Najibullah Interview by SFRY Paper Cited

*LD0309022189 Kabul BAKHTAR in Dari 1130 GMT 2 Sep 89*

[Text] Kabul, 2 Sep (BAKHTAR)—Here follows the text of an interview by esteemed Najibullah, president of Afghanistan, granted a few days ago to a correspondent of the DANAS weekly, published in Yugoslavia:

Question: The weekly DANAS reaffirms its confidence in the consolidated stance of the Republic of Afghanistan after the withdrawal of the Soviet forces. How do you assess the victories of your government and Armed Forces during the last 6 months since the withdrawal of the Soviet forces?

Answer: The experiences since the withdrawal of the Soviet forces from our country have shown that the forecasts about the ability of the Republic of Afghanistan to defend independently the national government and territorial integrity of the country were out of touch with the objective realities of Afghanistan and the true dimensions of the forces involved. It is unfortunate that in the West there are still personalities and circles who ignore the strength of the government.

We have a strong Armed Forces, which have a high level of combat readiness and fighting morale. We have an experienced state system which has controlled the affairs of the country in the last 10 years, despite the difficulties resulting from the war. Within the framework of the political system of our country, in addition to the People's Democratic Party of Afghanistan another seven political parties are active with various ideologies and programs. It should be added that the extensive and active joint participation of the Pakistani militia and Armed Forces and Saudi Wahhabi mercenaries in the combat operations of the armed opposition since the full withdrawal of Soviet forces has enhanced further the patriotic feelings and combat morale of our Armed Forces.

Question: Among other proposals for the achievement of a political solution to the situation in and around Afghanistan, you have also proposed that direct and fair elections should be carried out under UN supervision. The other side, including their patrons, have rejected this proposal.

In your view, what is the main reason for such a stance? Why should free and fair elections be rejected, while most world countries and their leaders think that free and fair elections are the best solution to all problems. In your view why did these people and their leaders choose to remain silent in connection with Afghanistan's proposals, while some of them reject these proposals?

Answer: Firstly, I should mention that the proposals of the Republic of Afghanistan for achieving a peaceful solution to the situation in and around Afghanistan have not only been welcomed warmly by the liberated and brave people of our country, but peace-loving people and circles worldwide support and back these proposals.

The further expansion of the role of the Republic of Afghanistan on the international political stage is a shining example of the fact that the authority and position of the Republic of Afghanistan expand and consolidate further with every passing day.

Of course, a limited number of the leaders of groups and armed warmongers and their regional and international patrons oppose the proposals of the Republic of Afghanistan. For those circles can only ensure their greedy interests via the continuation of war.

Question: If the opposite side changes its mind and decides to go ahead with free and fair elections, who will prepare these elections? The Government of the Republic of Afghanistan or any other bodies which will be acceptable to both sides? Who for example?

Answer: If you have read the recent proposals of the Republic of Afghanistan, you will find your answer there. We have presented a series of proposals along with a specific mechanism for their implementation in order to ensure a just and honorable and permanent peace and end the tragedy in Afghanistan. Briefly, we favor of a cease-fire and the start of an extensive dialogue via a nationwide peace council. This process includes the following stages: beginning talks between the Government of Afghanistan and all opposition forces, circles, and personalities who are in favor of peace and an end to war.

Holding a nationwide peace conference to elect a leadership council. This council should include representatives of all the forces involved in dialogue. And to form a broad-based coalition government within 6 months. The leadership council should draft a new constitution and invite the Grand Assembly to approve it. This council should also approve an election law for the National Assembly. Elections to the National Assembly should begin, based on this new law. And according to the results of these elections, the National Assembly should form a new government by a party or coalition of parties.

In such a case it seems that supervision of elections will be carried out by a consultative council, which will be appointed by the nationwide peace conference.

Question: In your proposals for free and fair elections, the United Nations has been named a main supervisory force. Have you received any comment on your proposals for free and fair elections?

Answer: Unfortunately, nothing has been received so far.

Questions: Are you satisfied with the role of the United Nations in the present situation of your country? Do you think the UN representations could do better work to help your country?

Answer: Generally, we consider the role of the United Nations and its efforts on this path as worthy of mention. From our viewpoint, the UN representations, within the comprehensive efforts which they carry out, can and should be able to carry out further work in order to end the war and ensure peace in Afghanistan.

Question: If we speak geneally, and we can hear this said worldwide, the Geneva accords regarding a peaceful solution to the problem of war in Afghanistan are considered as the biggest gain of the United Nations since World War II. Are you pleased with the present efforts of the United Nations to implement these accords? Do you think the United Nations can make more efforts or it should do more toward the implementation of the Geneva accords?

Answer: The Geneva accords on Afghanistan are really one of the UN gains toward finding a solution of regional issues. These accords, which were signed by the Afghan and Pakistani Governments under direct UN supervision and countersigned by the USSR and United States as guarantor, have been completely observed by the Afghan and Soviet Governments. According to the timetable of the accords, the Soviet forces were withdrawn from Afghanistan. However, the other party not only did not observe these accords, but intensified its interference against the Republic of Afghanistan. If the violation of the accords by the United States and Pakistan continues, this will undoubtedly damage the prestige of the United Nations and injure this formidable UN gain internationally and locally; the world public will then make its judgment.

Question: Regarding the United States, you can see that it supports free and fair elections all over the world as a major victory for democracy. In your view, what is the major reason why the United States does not advise your opposition to accept or consider your proposals for an election?

Answer: As the experience of post war years, particularly the events after the complete withdrawal of Soviet troops from Afghanistan, shows, the United States contravenes all accepted international norms and standards; it not only supports the policy of continuing the war against the Republic of Afghanistan, but directly takes part in broadening and intensifying the war and merciless killing of our defenseless people by providing the most modern weapons of mass destruction to the opposition.

The United States as a guarantor signed the Geneva accords; however, during this period it has not taken one step toward implementing its guarantees under UN supervision.

Contrary to the wishes and determination of the people, contrary to the desire of the people and peace-loving circles of the world, and contrary even to the will and views of public opinion in the United States, the United States wants to utilize the events around Afghanistan to secure its long-term strategic and expansionist interests. Therefore, instead of respecting the accepted principle of democracy—the convocation of general elections—the United States uses the policy of continuing the war and talks about giving a chance for another show of strength by the opposition for more Afghan killings and further destruction of the country.

Question: Do you think that the United States and other Western countries have incorrect information about your government, Afghanistan, and people? For 60 years the West had more influence in your country than others. After 1978 there were some changes. Is your country still the same? Do you think that old traditions, under the present circumstances, will assist your country for better recognition? [question as received]

Answer: The fundamental transformations which have begun in our country since 1978, in the interest of our toiling people and development of our country, do not conform with the thinking and views of some Western countries. While these transformations are in accordance with the great interests of our country, they are not against the interests of any other country. Perhaps some extravagances took place in those early years which brought about the pretext to fan up tension in Afghanistan.

Now that the Soviet forces have left Afghanistan and the policy of national reconciliation, which corresponds with the interests, wishes, and tradition of our people, is being implemented, we think that the Western countries should adjust their stance vis-a-vis Afghanistan and its people in accordance with the objective realities in the Afghan society.

Question: The people of Afghanistan and the world were expecting new policies concerning the internal situation and events around Afghanistan by the new democratic government of Benazir Bhutto. Do you think that Benazir Bhutto might follow her previous policy about Afghanistan, the one she had before coming to power? Do you think that the current Pakistani Government, under the leadership of Benazir Bhutto, can do better work for the restoration of peace in Afghanistan, or it is possible that the government of Benazir Bhutto faces internal obstacles in this respect?

Answer: From our point of view the Pakistani Government can and must play an effective role in resolving the Afghan issue. And if Pakistan follows its commitments in the Geneva accords, the current crisis can be resolved as soon as possible. We think that the Pakistani Government has not produced any initiative in practice for the peaceful solution of the Afghan situation. And if the current situation continues, Benazir Bhutto's government policy undoubtedly will suffer and be isolated from the people of Pakistan who want a normalization of the regional situation.

Question: Do you see any changes in the policy regarding Iran's role, now that Hashemi-Rafsanjani is in power? Do you think that Iran can now play more of a role in the peaceful resolution of the Afghan situation? Do you have any hope in this respect?

Answer: After the complete withdrawal of Soviet forces from Afghanistan, there are no obstacles in the way of the normalizing relations between Afghanistan and Pakistan. I believe that the current Iranian leadership, being aware of the realities, can play a considerable role in the cessation of fratricide and the restoration of peace in Afghanistan.

Question: What is the PRC's view of your government? Are there any sign of a new Chinese policy on Afghanistan, or it is silent? Does your government have any relations and contacts with China?

Answer: The factors that obstructed normal relations between our countries were alleviated by the complete withdrawal of Soviet forces from Afghanistan. Therefore, there is no reason now why a normalization of relations between Afghanistan and China should be obstructed.

Question: Have you considered the participation of the former king, Muhammad Zaier Shah, in the process of the restoration of peace in Afghanistan? Has he accepted any of your proposals in this respect?

Answer: We believe that all of the country's political forces and national and social personalities should take part in the process of the restoration of peace. The former Afghan king can play a special role in the peace process. We, in the past, also indicated that all Afghans, whether inside the country or abroad, can fulfil their historic and national obligations in the peaceful resolution process.

Question: Your country has relatively large and powerful armed forces; it is well armed. Why, then, can they not protect Kabul from rocket attacks? Do you think that Kabul will be protected against rocket attacks in the near future, particularly as it is important from the point of view of your military doctrine?

Answer: The Armed Forces of Afghanistan have proved in practice their great military strength and morale in the battlefield, fighting the joint enemy forces. In my opinion, firing rockets from long distances, mountains, gorges and hidden places on residential areas, where many live and where they kill women and children and defenseless people, does not demonstrate the opposition's strength but represents its weakness and incapability. Although our Armed Forces have extended the security of Kabul, the possibility of surreptitious rocket fire from long distances and mountains has not been eliminated due to the supply of modern and mass-killing weapons to the rebels by the United States and its allies.

Question: Please describe your military doctrine, unless it is a secret? [passage indistinct]

Answer: The Afghan Military doctrine has defensive characteristics.

Question: Many Afghans live as refugees abroad, especially in Pakistan and Iran. How many of them have returned since the national reconciliation policy was declared? Also, how many from the armed opposition groups have joined the government?

Answer: More than 200,000 refugees have returned home since the national reconciliation policy was declared. Surely, if there had not been obstacles put in their path, this number could have been much greater. During this period 40,000 armed opponents, who previously fought the people's sovereignty, laid down their arms and joined in the national reconciliation. Similarly, cease-fire protocols have either been signed with a large number of armed groups or they are due to be signed.

Question: What are the gains and the losses of national reconciliation?

Answer: The national reconciliation policy has become a real part of our people's lives. Since the declaration of this humane policy, fundamental steps have been taken in socio-economic, political, and military fields, giving an account of which will take a long time. The convening of the Grand Assembly, the approval and introduction of the Constitution, the convening of the Meli Shura after 15 years, free activities by political parties and organizations, free press, the removal of a power monopoly, the Republic of Afghanistan's readiness for the formation of broad-based government, the release of a large number of political prisoners, and the return to the homeland of more than 200,000 refugees are the achievements and gains of national reconciliation. There are, however, problems and obstacles in the way of this humane policy. I am fully confident that had there not been those problems and obstacles, the achievements of national reconciliation would have been more numerous than they are.

Question: What is the role of political parties after the announcement of the state of emergency in Afghanistan?

Answer: Actually, the state of emergency has not limited the activities of the political parties. The state of emergency, however, was announced to prevent the probable threat of subversion and obstructionism which [words indistinct] against our country by the joint enemy forces.

Question: What is the role of the People's Democratic Party of Afghanistan [PDPA] in the country and in the Armed Forces following the announcement of national reconciliation? And, much is said about the existence of factions in the PDPA. Is it true, though, that the PDPA is united?

Answer: Unity and the defense of the independence, national sovereignty, and territorial integrity of the country after the withdrawal of Soviet forces is proof that the PDPA is more united politically, organizationally, and structurally than at any time before. Now all

democratic powers have come together with the PDPA and the Government of the Republic of Afghanistan to defend the sanctuary of their country against the attack of the joint enemy forces. The formation of 60 percent of the Armed Forces by members of the PDPA is the manifestation of its authority and strong role in the independent defense of the country.

Question: If the opposition were to accept free and fair elections, do you think that the PDPA would come out a powerful force?

Answer: The PDPA has opened the way during a difficult and up-and-down struggle among the masses and has in practice proved that it is a real and honest servant of its people and country. The PDPA is the great political, organized, and experienced force of our society. It is a party which believes in the people and respects and observes their views and demands.

Question: There is a front of leftist parties in Afghanistan. Can you highlight the principles of the front, currently composed of the PDPA and two other parties?

Answer: The PDPA and the Republic of Afghanistan vowed since the declaration of national reconciliation policy to abandon a monopoly of power and prepare the ground for the formation of a broad-based government of all democratic forces and for the participation of all national and democratic forces in society's leadership cadre. The coordination of democratic left, which consists of four political parties and organizations, helped in the political, economic, and cultural fields of the society, providing great help to the Government of the Republic of Afghanistan. We strongly believe that the honesty of the national reconciliation policy and the peace-loving policy of the Government of the Republic of Afghanistan will persuade all national and progressive forces to join with the coordination committee of the democratic left and the Government of the Republic of Afghanistan to form a united circle, and to start to work on the problems.

Question: What do you expect from the nonaligned summit in Belgrade? Do you think that the Nonaligned Movement will play an important role in the Afghan situation? Are you happy with the movement regarding the events in Afghanistan, or should the Nonaligned Movement make more efforts for the peaceful resolution of the situation around Afghanistan?

Answer: As a founder of the Nonaligned Movement, the Republic of Afghanistan believes that the Nonaligned Movement can play an important role in ensuring peace and security in the region; in maintaining stability in the world; in the national sovereignty, independence, and territorial integrity of countries; and in ensuring the unity of all peace-loving forces to abort the conspiracies of the ememies of progress. The Afghan people are looking forward to the Nonaligned Movement's unanimously emphasizing the cessation of foreign interference and aggression in Afghanistan and the political resolution of the problems related to Afghanistan and encouraging Pakistan and the United States to observe the provisions of the Geneva agreements. We believe that the Nonaligned Movement can play an active role in the peaceful resolution of the situation around Afghanistan, and it must do so.

Question: Is your delegation going to Belgrade with new proposals for the peaceful resolution of the Afghan issue?

Answer: As a founder of the movement, Afghanistan believes that the Nonaligned Movement must pay more serious attention to resolving those disputes which endanger world peace and security. In its turn, the Republic of Afghanistan will submit new proposals to the Belgrade summit on the circumstances of the restoration of peace to the war-weary country.

Question: What is your message to the people of Yugoslavia before the summit in Belgrade begins? How do you see Afghan-Yugoslav relations now and in the future?

Answer: We wish prosperity and tranquillity for the people of Yugoslavia. Not only are Afghanistan and Yugoslavia the founders of the Nonaligned Movement, but long standing relations also tie these two countries to each other. Our people look with friendship and respect at the people of Yugoslavia. In our view, relations between us and Yugoslavia can be established and expanded in various fields. We consider relations between our countries in their interests and in the interest of peace in the region and the world.

Question: If you head the Afghan delegation to the summit, will you see the leaders of Yugoslavia?

Answer: If there is an opportunity for a meeting of the leaders of the two countries, in our view it would be in the interest of strengthening and expanding relations between the two countries. We welcome such an opportunity.

## Bangladesh

### Buddhist Group Accuses Government of Massacre

*BK0709142689 Hong Kong AFP in English 1349 GMT 7 Sep 89*

[Text] New Delhi, Sept 7 (AFP)—A Buddhist group campaigning for autonomy in Bangladesh has charged President Hussain Mohammad Ershad's government with engineering a massacre of tribespeople in the rugged Chittagong Hill Tracts.

The Jana Samhati Samiti (United People's Party or UPP) in a recent report accused Dhaka of "masterminding" the massacre of tribal Chakma men, women and children in Chittagong's Rangamati District four months ago.

The group, which has fled southeastern Chittagong for India, said it was sending copies of the report to human rights organisations worldwide to focus global attention on alleged atrocities being committed on the region's 600,000 Chakma tribespeople by Bangladeshi Muslims and the army.

The UPP report alleged that Chittagong's Muslim settlers and Bangladesh soldiers attacked villages in Chittagong's Longadu County and shot and hacked to death the Chakmas during the first week of May. The Buddhist group said 35 bodies were counted after the massacre, adding that an unknown number of corpses were either burned in their homes or carted away by the attackers who destroyed nine populated villages.

The massacre has been reported earlier and several civil rights groups have demanded investigations into the incident, but the UPP, a respected Buddhist group, for the first time released a report on the violence. A copy of the report, released in India's northeastern Tripura State, was mailed to AGENCE FRANCE-PRESSE here. UPP said the two-day massacre also triggered an exodus across the borders to India.

Some 56,000 Chakma refugees from Bangladesh have been living in Tripura State but after the massacre in May, the figure soared to 96,000.

The UPP report said that thousands of Chakma tribespeople, Chittagong's orginal inhabitants, have died in five separate massacres since Bangladesh was founded after an Indo-Pakistani war in 1971.

The killings in Longadu County followed the murder of a prominent local Muslim official by suspected guerrillas of the tribal Shanti Bahini (Peace Force), a group that does not acknowledge Mr. Ershad's presidency. Dhaka has so far neither confirmed or denied the Longadu massacre.

### Jute Company Unable To Fill Pakistani Order

*BK0809060489 Hong Kong AFP in English 2118 GMT 7 Sep 89*

[Text] Karachi, Sept 7 (AFP)—Bangladesh has indicated that it will be unable to fulfill a contract to supply 20,000 tons of raw jute to Pakistan, the Pakistan Jute Mills Association (PJMA) said here Thursday [7 September]. The association said it had been informed by the state-owned Bangladesh Jute Corporation that it would be unable to meet export commitments made to jute mill owners in Pakistan.

The bulk deals were concluded by various Pakistan jute mills in April and called for delivery of about 20,000 tons of raw jute from Bangladesh by the end of October.

The PJMA said the failure of the Bangladesh Jute Corporation to fulfill its export commitments would have a "negative effect" on bilateral trade relations.

The association said that although Pakistan was the largest importer of jute from Bangladesh, it had been "discriminated" against by the Bangladesh Jute Corporation. Bangladesh's failure to meet its obligations would create serious financial problems for Pakistan's jute industry, it added.

## India

### Gandhi Returns, Praises NAM Summit Results

*BK0809090489 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0830 GMT 8 Sep 89*

[Text] The prime minister, Mr Rajiv Gandhi, says the Belgrade summit has given a new thrust to the Non-aligned Movement [NAM], particularly in the context of achieving a new economic order. Mr Gandhi was talking to newsmen at Delhi airport soon after his arrival from Belgrade a short while ago. He expressed happiness over the outcome of the NAM summit.

The prime minister said he had detailed discussions with several leaders during the 4 days of the summit meetings. He said he had extensive discussions with leaders of Nepal, Sri Lanka, Pakistan, and Bangladesh.

The prime minister was received at the airport by his cabinet colleagues and senior civil and military officials.

### Agreement With Sri Lanka

*BK0809130389 Delhi Domestic Service in English 1230 GMT 8 Sep 89*

[Text] The prime minister, Mr Rajiv Gandhi, has said the Belgrade summit has given a new thrust to the Nonaligned Movement [NAM], particularly in the context of achieving a new economic order. He was talking to newsmen at Delhi airport on his return from the Yugoslav capital this afternoon.

Mr Gandhi said the summit declaration contained a number of Indian suggestions. He said a meeting of the newly set up group of nations on South-South cooperation will take place early next year.

Mr Gandhi refuted the allegation that his policy with the neighboring countries has failed. He said it is not at all correct. He said he had long and extensive talks with the king of Nepal, as well as delegations of Sri Lanka and other neighboring countries while in Belgrade.

The prime minister disclosed that both India and Sri Lanka have worked out an agreement on various issues. India feels the agreement is good. Mr Gandhi said the Sri Lankan side is taking back the agreement to their president and he would await a feedback.

The prime minister said in his talks with King Birendra of Nepal all aspects of bilateral relations were reviewed in their totality. A follow-up meeting will be held at the official level, which will be reviewed at the ministrial level.

Replying to a question of Pakistan raising the Kashmir issue at the Belgrade summit, Mr Gandhi said he did not think that Kashmir was an issue. He said the Pakistan representative had raised it and the Indian minister had replied to it.

Replying to another question, the prime minister said the Defense Ministry would deal with all matters raised by the former army chief [K. Sunderji] on the 155-mm [Bofors] gun deal. He said the ministry has already clarified the matter and if there is anything more, it will look into it. The prime minister also stated that the CBI [Central Bureau of Investigation] is still investigating certain aspects of the Bofors issue.

Talking to newsmen on board the special aircraft on his way back home from Belgrade, Mr Rajiv Gandhi said a major initiative has been taken at the NAM summit to set up a 13-nation group for South-South cooperation. In reply to a question about Africa Fund, of which Mr Rajiv Gandhi has been elected chairman for the second term, the prime minister said many of the promises the fund set for itself are still incomplete. A lot needs to be done. Human rights are being violated and apartheid continues. On Namibia, Mr Gandhi said there are many loopholes in holding a fair election. He said he discussed the situation with several nonaligned leaders in Belgrade.

### Curfew Imposed in Northern Town After 'Incidents'

*BK0709155889 Delhi Domestic Service in English 1530 GMT 7 Sep 89*

[Text] In Uttar Pradesh, indefinite curfew was imposed in Haldwani town of Nainital District following violent incidents. An official spokesman said in Lucknow that an unruly mob pelted stones on three policemen who were arrested on charges of misbehaving with a woman. The police opened fire to control the mob who set on fire half a dozen vehicles. Four persons were killed and eleven injured in the firing. Forty police personnel also received injuries. The chief minister, Mr Narayan Dutt Tiwari, has ordered a judicial inquiry into the incident. He announced an ex gratia payment of 25,000 rupees each to the next of kin of those killed and 5,000 rupees each to the injured.

Meanwhile, a team of police officials have reached the Haldwani town to go into the immediate cause of the incident.

## Iran

### Commentary Assesses U.S. Withdrawal From Beirut

*LD0709145189 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1115 GMT 7 Sep 89*

[Station commentary: "The Closure of the U.S. Embassy in Lebanon"]

[Text] After the evacuation of the U.S. ambassador and 29 diplomats from that country's embassy in Beirut yesterday, it is not expected that the embassy's door will reopen for at least several months. In the wake of the strong attack launched by Michel 'Awn, the head of Lebanon's illegal government, on U.S. policies, dozens of his supporters surrounded the U.S. Embassy. Michel 'Awn had said that the United States had sold out Lebanon to Syria. He added the United States understands no other language but that of hostage-taking. Those laying siege to the embassy were also accusing the United States of collusion with Syria; and after the closure of the embassy yesterday, they congratulated one another on this victory.

The U.S. Government stated that the reason behind the evacuation of its diplomats was the lack of security for the embassy. It is clear, nevertheless, that there are other reasons behind this decision. Michel 'Awn himself said that the American Cain could not put up with the views of the Lebanese Abel and decided to go. Recently, 6 months ago, after Michel 'Awn's initiation of his abortive clashes, called the war of liberation against Syria, he tried from the beginning to win U.S. support. The announcement that he intended to eliminate the evil empire in Lebanon which promotes terrorism, narcotics, and despotism was made within this framework. However, the U.S. Government, besides supporting Michel 'Awn, always tried to consider the position of the other side; that is, the Islamic and national forces, and tried not to strain its relations with the Government of Syria, for the Syrian Government is the strongest foreign side involved in the present situation in Lebanon. In addition, no comprehensive plan for solving the Middle East crisis can have any meaning without the participation of Damascus. In order to safeguard this balance, the new U.S. ambassador in Beirut did not submit his credentials to either of the two prime ministers of Lebanon. Nevertheless, the Islamic and national sides were annoyed to some extent because the embassy was moved to East Beirut and Syria was directly condemned for the clashes, particularly because the U.S. ambassador did not go to West Beirut for some time under the pretext of lack of security.

At any rate, the extent of the U.S. support did not satisfy 'Awn and as his position became weaker, he demanded greater overt support from the United States and other Western governments. For instance, France, by dispatching its naval fleet, openly supported one group against another. Observers believe that several important factors, such as the unit and steadfastness of the national and Islamic forces in Lebanon and the diplomatic initiative of the Soviet Union, prevented France from taking military action, and the operations came to a halt. The U.S. Government was not in favor of greater involvement by the French Government either, as this might have gained Paris some advantages that Washington had failed to gain.

A combination of these factors forced Michel 'Awn, who is more of a military man with its particular language than a politician, to launch a stronger attack on the U.S. stance vis-a-vis the crisis of Lebanon, hoping to win

greater support from Washington. On the other hand, diplomatic circles in West Beirut regard the closure of the U.S. Embassy in Lebanon, albeit for a short time, as the biggest defeat for Washington in the arena of this war-torn country and even in the Middle East. Since the victory of the Islamic revolution in Iran, the U.S. Government has faced frustration in the implementation of all its plans in Lebanon.

The Israeli invasion 7 years ago not only failed to achieve its objectives, but also dragged the United States into a terrifying whirlpool, when it dispatched its Marines to participate in the multinational forces. The blowing up of the U.S. forces headquarters in Beirut and several months later the blowing up of that country's embassy demonstrated that the United States had not properly evaluated the hostile forces in the Lebanese arena. Even after the dispatch of Washington's secretary of state, when it eventually succeeded in securing a peace treaty between Lebanon and Israel, the Lebanese Government abrogated this treaty within a short period. [sentence as heard] In addition, the issue of the hostage-taking and its subsequent scandals, which has created many difficulties for the White House for a long time, made Washington tread this path more cautiously and try to become politically involved in the crisis of this country.

The U.S.-Syrian agreement last year on the election of Lebanon's president after the end of Amin al-Jumayyil's presidency was opposed by the extremist Christian right and failed before it even got underway. It thus seems that since 1982, that is, 7 years ago when the United States dispatched its forces to Lebanon, the Washington government has reaped nothing but failure. And now indecisiveness, attempts to maintain a balance, a desire to remain in contact with all the forces, and confusion have led it to a situation where it has even been forced to leave East Beirut. And that was done by its last ally in Lebanon.

But will the embassy reopen? And can the United States digest the formal insult it has received from Michel 'Awn? The answer to these questions require more time, but one point cannot be overlooked, and that is this: Thanks to the evacuation of the U.S. diplomats from Beirut, Michel 'Awn's position will become much weaker than before.

## Emami-Kashani Urges Action, Not 'Sloganeering'

*LD0809120589 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1030 GMT 8 Sep 89*

[Text] On the same day as the anniversary of the blissful birth of the seventh leader of world Shiites, His Holiness Imam Musa Kazim, peace be upon him, our Muslim compatriots today held religious-political rites of the Friday prayers throughout the country.

Tehran University and adjacent streets were the venue for Friday prayers today under the leadership of Hojjat-ol Eslam val-Moslemin Emami-Kashani.

In the Friday prayers sermons, the acting Friday prayer leader of Tehran talked about parts of the biography of Imam Musa Kazim—a life full of struggle—as well as his lofty characteristics on the occasion of his anniversary. Referring also to the anniversary of 8 September 1978 [when protesting marchers were gunned down in Tehran] he lauded the martyrs of that day who managed to perpetuate the expanding movement of Islamic revolution by sacrificing their blood.

Referring to the nonaligned summit he said: In order for that movement to have meaningful content it must follow its lofty objectives. The highest objective which the member-states of the movement can choose is planning against colonialism and exploitation; otherwise, mere sloganeering will not be efficient.

Referring to examples of the crimes committed by the regime occupying Jerusalem, in killing the victimized Muslim peoples of Lebanon and Palestine, the acting Friday prayer leader of Tehran said: The Lebanese and Palestinian Muslims will not be driven out of the arena by massacres and killing. Campaigns against tyranny will continue. Meanwhile, the nonaligned countries must match their words and claims with actions to restore calm in the region; otherwise, nothing can be achieved by mere protests and threats.

Hojjat-ol Eslam val-Moslemin Emami-Kashani then specified the advantages of the Islamic banking system and asked the Friday prayers leaders and mass media to acquaint the people with the Islamic banking system in a more intensified manner.

Continuing his second sermon, the acting Friday prayerd leader of Tehran reminded the people of the need for cooperation among all social strata in order to overcome society's economic difficulties. He then said: The government is committed to solving the problems. Therefore, the officials, 'ulema, scientists, writers, Majlis representatives, and other social strata must all help through unity and solidarity and with a full grasp of the situation. They must help in solving the difficulties if the government is to succeed in overcoming them.

In his Friday prayer sermons, the acting Friday prayers leader of Tehran paid tribute to the dear martyrs Ayatollah Madani, Ayatollah Qoddusi, and Brigadier General Vahid Dasjerdi on the occasion of the approach of the anniversary of their martyrdom. Also on the occasion of the proximity of the anniversary of the death of Ayatollah Taleqani he lauded the valuable services of that struggling cleric.

## Velayati Interviewed on Foreign Policy

*LD0709175789 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1630 GMT 7 Sep 89*

[Text] Mr Velayati, our country's foreign minister, was interviewed by a reporter of the Spanish newspaper, EL PAIS. In the interview he stressed that Iran's foreign policy is the same as that followed during the time of

Imam Khomeyni, may his dust be sanctified. According to an IRNA report, Mr Velayati, in the interview which was made at the conference of the heads of the non-aligned countries in Belgrade, also mentioned that the priorities in the country's programs are in line with the way Imam Khomeyni, may he be admitted to God's paradise, had defined.

In reply to a question about the discussions on peace between Iran and Iraq making no progress, he said: We are prepared to continue discussions on peace under the observance of the UN secretary general, at any place or time. Unfortunately the Iraqi regime is not prepared to do so. He added: The main obstacle is that the Iraqi regime is not prepared to show sincerity and seriousness towards the implementation of Resolution 598. Concerning tactical changes in Iranian policy, Velayati added: Our tactics can change, but those changes cannot deviate or bring disorder to our principles. Referring to Iran having no objections to the strengthening of relations with other countries, he said: Recently we improved our relations with the Soviet Union. Also in recent years we have had some problems with Western countries, but we have improved our relations with some of them, such as France and West Germany.

Asked about foreign investments, our country's foreign minister said: We enjoy enough resources, such as oil and gas, and do not need foreign capital.

### Javad Larijani Comments on Iraqi Role in Region

*LD0709154189 Tehran IRNA in English 1505 GMT 7 Sep 89*

[Text] Tehran, Sep. 7, IRNA—Foreign powers accustomed to interfering in the internal affairs of regional countries should never think that it would be in their interest if Iraqi ruler Saddam Husayn played the role of a gendarme in the region, the former deputy foreign minister said.

"The region does not need a gendarme but on the contrary wants to get rid of foreign agression and interventions," Javad Larijani said in an article published in the daily ETTELA'AT Thursday.

Larijani, saying that no one should be doubtful of Is'amic Iran's desire for a lasting peace with its neighboring countries including Iraq, noted, however, "if Iraq wants peace, it is because continuing the war is not economical for it."

"In addition," he said, "Iraq wants other things which do not get along with peace... Iraq wants to tear up the 1975 accord and become a gendarme in the region."

"Iraq can be dissatisfied with the 1975 accord for ever but it has to respect it," he said.

Larijani continued that the Baghdad regime could not maintain its occupation of parts of Iranian territory nor could it tear up the 1975 accord but is likely to try again its ill-fated chance.

However, Larijani saw it unlikely for Iraq to want to resume its war against Iran, arguing that the Iraqis have not yet forgotten the bitter blows they received from brave Iranian combatants. "Was it not the war that turned the rich state of Iraq into a ruined and indebted country?" he questioned.

He said "there has never been such a good chance of attaining peace as there is now but that one should appreciate such chances."

### Daily Cited on Soviet Role in Conference

*LD0209100589 Tehran IRNA in English 0810 GMT 2 Sep 89*

[Text] Tehran, Sept. 2, IRNA—The English daily TEHRAN TIMES in its editorial Saturday criticized the Soviet Union for insisting on participation of non-relevant states at the proposed conference on Afghanistan saying "Moscow does not desire an immediate solution to the Afghanistan problem."

"Prolonged crisis can surely reinforce the future uninterrupted influence of the Soviet Union in this oppressed Afghan country," it said. "But political observers believe that the smaller the number of participants... the better," the daily stressed.

TEHRAN TIMES said states such as India and China are with remotest link with Afghanistan who "are only desirous of joining the conference merely as neighbors" and "have already shared in escalation of the crisis." Meanwhile Saudi Arabia will consider its participation in the conference more eligible, it added.

According to the editorial "sheer narrowmindedness and selfishness led the Tehran-based eight-party alliance and some other groups not to join hands with the (Peshawar-based) interim government."

"The hidden tussle within the interim government for key-posts and their apathy and passive roles just now with the ulterior motive of making effective use of their military forces during a future rival power struggle are the main causes for total failure of an interim government," said TEHRAN TIMES.

"Last month's Takhar tragedy which led to the killing of 30 high-ranking officials of Jamiyat-e Eslami at the hands of Hezb-e Eslami commanders intensified the crisis and the arrest of Sa'id Jamal whom the Jamiyat-e Eslami held mainly responsible for Takhar tragedy, brought the two main Afghan mujhidin groups into a new phase of more bitter rivalry," it concluded.

### Tehran Radio Commentary on Afghan Situation

*LD0609172189 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1050 GMT 6 Sep 89*

[Commentary entitled "Developments in Afghanistan"]

[Text] After a respite, the Afghan mujahidin have recently intensified their attacks on bases of the Kabul

regime. The Shindand Air Base in Herat, which is considered the most important base in that country, has been severely damaged in the course of some operations. There were simultaneous missile attacks by the Afghan mujahidin on Kabul airport last Saturday [2 September], which made it difficult for Najibullah, the head of the regime ruling in Kabul, to leave for the venue of the 9th Nonaligned Movement [NAM] summit in Belgrade.

Observers of Afghan affairs believe that the extensive operations launched by the Muslim mujahidin all over the country, particularly against the city of Kabul, which coincide with the 9th NAM summit, demonstrates the political-military power of the Muslim mujahidin inside that country. In line with these developments, the message dispatched by the Council for the Islamic Coalition of Afghanistan to the NAM summit in Belgrade is significant. In this message the Islamic Coalition Council [ICC], while condemning the summit's decision to accept the Kabul regime instead of the true representatives of the Muslim nation of Afghanistan, demanded condemnation of the superpowers' interference in the Afghan affairs and asked for assistance to set up a nonaligned and democratic government in that country.

The course of events in Afghanistan, more than 6 months after the withdrawal of the Soviet forces from that country, shows that the United States intends to seize the opportunity to replace the Soviet Union in Afghanistan. In this connection, the mujahidin sources state that so far America's inappropriate interference has added to the suffering and difficulties of the nation of Afghanistan. The history of Afghanistan's anticolonial struggle and the years of occupation, however, have proved that the Muslim people of this country never put up with foreign infiltration and hegemony, and have twice, at two sensitive junctures, succeeded in throwing aliens out of their country.

The Western superpower and its reactionary agents in the region, by exploiting the Islamic belief of the Muslim people of Afghanistan and their devotion to Islamic values and by raising the issue of tribalism—the outcome of which is division—intend to realize their sinister objectives; that is, continued hegemony over and infiltration of this country. Implementation of such a policy, whose objective in the first instance was to set up a government based on the American-style Islam, was hindered for some reason and created confusion among the U.S. statesmen.

After the withdrawal of the Soviet forces, last Bahman [February 1989], the Kabul regime inherited all the military equipment left by these forces, and it is said that the Soviet Union has continued arming the Najibullah regime ever since. Nevertheless, the ever-increasing mistrust of Washington's objectives in Afghanistan has prevented the realization of a political solution, which would guarantee formation of an independent, nonaligned, and Islamic Afghanistan. Since the Afghan mujahidin believe that the Kabul regime is the main factor responsible for continuation of war in Afghanistan, they also believe that the extensive political-military support of a foreign power for this regime fans the flames of the war and bloodshed daily.

The Muslim people and mujahidin of Afghanistan, therefore, are determined to continue their courageous resistance, by resorting to various measures, until realization of their independence, freedom, and formation of an Islamic and nonaligned government. In this connection, the mujahidin commanders in the northern region of Afghanistan announced that they intend to move towards their objective by rebuilding several provincial capitals and by laying a complete blockage of the Salang highway.

Ahmad Shah Mas'ud, the mujahidin commander in the northern regions of Afghanistan, has also said that the mujahidin army in this region comprise infantry and artillery forces, which are backed by dozens of armoured equipment and weapons, all of which have been seized as booty. He stressed: considering our supply of the captured weapons, we do not feel that there is any need to import weapons from abroad.

Political observers interpret these remarks of the head of the Military Council of Afghanistan's Jam'iat-e Eslami as some sort of response in the face of America's recent politico-propaganda war, on the basis of which the CIA and Pentagon, that country's defense Department, had been criticized for failing to dispatch weapons in time for some Afghan groups, while the Soviet Union continued arming the kabul regime. [sentence as heard]

The observers also interpret the recent clashes within the mujahidin groups—which occured under some suspicious circumstances with the objective of delivering fatal blows on the shaky unity of the mujahidin so as to meet the interests of the United States and its allies in the region—as the outcome of Washington's hypocratic policies and the despondency created by this conspiracy. No doubt the vigilance of mujahidin commanders inside Afghanistan in neutralizing the arrogant conspiracy, which relies on public support and their own politico-military capabilities, have contributed to this movement.

On the other hand the Islamic Republic of Iran and Pakistan, which are hosts to more than 5 million Afghan refugees, while giving priority to a political solution for the problem of Afghanistan and stopping bloodshed, have always demanded that the Muslim nation of Afghanistan should take charge of its own sovereignty. At the same time, the mujahidin commanders, in connection with the issue of finding a peaceful solution to the problem of Afghanistan, have announced that they are not in favor of war. They have added that they would stop the war if another alternative is found which would realize their objectives.

## Indonesian Oil Minister Arrives in Tehran 7 Sep

### Welcomed by Counterpart

*LD0709212189 Tehran in English to Europe 1930 GMT 7 Sep 89*

[Text] Indonesian Oil Minister Ginanjar Kartasasmita arrived in Tehran today for an unpredicted short visit and was welcomed by his Iranian counterpart, Gholamreza Aqazadeh.

According to a CNP [as heard] report, the Indonesian oil minister said he would brief Aqazadeh on the meeting of the heads of non-OPEC member states held alongside the Nonaligned Movement summit in Belgrade.

Iran's oil minister described the visit to Tehran of his Indonesian counterpart as significant and said: Important issues have been discussed among the OPEC member states in Belgrade and Mr Sasmita is in Tehran to make consultations in the same connection.

### Discusses OPEC Summit

*NC0809090389 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 0430 GMT 8 Sep 89*

[From the "News Reports" section]

[Text] Petroleum Minister Aqazadeh said in an interview with the Central News Unit that the Islamic Republic of Iran has agreed on the need for an OPEC summit.

The petroleum minister was speaking after a 4-hour meeting with Indonesian Mining and Energy Minister Ginanjar Kartasasmita, who visited Tehran yesterday for a few hours. The petroleum minister said that Iran and almost all other OPEC members have agreed to hold a summit on OPEC's 30th anniversary next September. He added that the necessary coordination should be carried out among OPEC members to draw up an agenda and prepare for the summit in such a way as to ensure its success.

Mr Aqazadeh said that the OPEC summit and the adoption of a long-term OPEC policy were discussed during his talks with the Indonesian mining and energy minister. He also expressed the hope that coordination among the OPEC members will help resolve the organization's problems.

Mr Aqazadeh added that the problems stemming from oil surpluses in Kuwait and the United Arab Emirates and undertaking a study on OPEC's long-term strategy are on the agenda of the OPEC oil ministers conference which is to be held in Geneva in 2 weeks. He said that drafting a long-term policy for OPEC, which would project the member' oil revenues on the eve of Iran's adoption of a 5-year plan, is of great significance for Iran.

The same report adds that after his meeting with our petroleum minister, the Indonesian mining and energy minister said: I came to Tehran to brief my Iranian counterpart on the talks on OPEC's problems held on the sidelines of the nonaligned summit in Belgrade by the OPEC heads of states attending the summit and to discuss the prospects for an OPEC summit. He added that Indonesia and most other OPEC members agree on the need for an OPEC summit and for carrying out the necessary coordination among OPEC members beforehand.

He added that during his brief visit to Tehran, he and the Iranian petroleum minister discussed the upcoming OPEC oil ministers conference.

Mr Kartasasmita noted that some OPEC members have exceeded production ceilings. Describing this as a big problem for the organization, he said: Achieving a result that benefits both the oil-producing countries and the consumers requires a great deal of work and patience.

The Indonesian mining and energy minister described Iranian-Indonesian cooperation as good, especially in the field of energy, and said: Indonesia is currently importing oil from iran and plans to increase these imports. There are many possibilities for cooperation in other economic fields, which Indonesia will do its best to realize.

## Hashemi Interviewed on Voice, Vision Appointment

*LD0709185289 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 0900 GMT 7 Sep 89*

[Interview with the new director of the Voice and Vision of Iran, Mohammad Hashemi, brother of President Hashemi-Rafsanjani, by an unidentified correspondent on the "In Line With the People, in Step With the Officials" program in Tehran; date not given—recorded]

[Excerpts] [Passage omitted] [Correspondent] Your Excellency, Mr Hashemi. In view of the concentration of management in the Voice and Vision on the basis of the constitutional amendments, and following your appointment by the esteemed leader as director of the Voice and Vision, please let us know, in view of the more extensive powers of the director of the Voice and Vision, what measures you have in mind to improve the quality and quantity of the programs of the radio and television?

[Hashemi] I should say that, naturally, improving the quality of the programs has always been in the forefront of the policy of the organization. Likewise, in the letter of appointment issued by the esteemed leader, he stressed the [need for] improving the quality of the programs on the basis of reliance upon Islamic values and with attention to the young generation. This naturally defined the responsibilities of the officials of the Voice and Vision, including myself. Another matter important in drawing up the programs is the way we define the policies of the programs and the way we implement these policies in the organization.

To properly implement the policies and to make sure that practice corresponds with the policies which will be defined, alongside the concentration of management in the organization, we have also set up a center known as the Evaluation, Studies, and Research Center [ma'kaz-e sanjesh, motale'at va tahqiqat] in the new format of the organization. This center will be in contact with various centers for collecting necessary information within the framework of an information bank, information which should be turned into programs and into the policies on various issues. This center will also be in contact with the esteemed leadership to receive his views and guidelines, as well as with other officials of the country. It will receive views and will turn them into policies.

On the other hand, a section has been set up in the center to ascertain the special features of our audience, so that we can find out the main features and characteristics of our audience: their age, education level, and social grouping, and the times that they can listen to the radio or watch television. This section will study the different characteristics and needs on the basis of which priorities should be defined. Therefore, we have made certain plans to define our policies in various programs and we have also made some preparations, so that this center can act as a very powerful arm in the service of the officials of the organization. Another provision which has been made is to check the implementation.

Now the policies have been defined through different methods, these policies will be conveyed by the director of the organization to the internal sections of the organization. Then we will see whether the practice has corresponded with the policies that have been defined or not, and if not, why they have been at variance and how to remove this gap [between theory and practice]. Therefore, the basic change which has been made in the method of operation of the organization and the preparations which have already been made, is the establishment of the Center for Evaluation, Studies, and Research so that this center can provide necessary coordination in the definition of policies, as well as in programming, and the correspondence of programs with policies. God willing, this center can bring about major changes in the programs and also very speedily bring the necessary reforms into programing policies. This is what has been done as regards the quality...

[Correspondent, interrupting] Excuse me, have you defined any particular timeframe for its implementation? Will this come about in a known period of time?

[Hashemi] The plan for this is on the agenda of the council of the deputies of the organization, and they are studying it. Its executive details will be announced later, because the concentration of management there has not been functioning for very long. As far as quantity is concerned, within the framework of our 5-year plan—and it is nearly a year that we have been busy making plans for it—in the Voice and Vision in view of the needs which exist in our Islamic society, also in view of various transmitters which broadcast programs from beyond our borders, from near or from afar, also in view of the linguistic and ethnic situations which exists in different provinces of our country. In brief, by paying attention to all these conditions, the Voice and Vision set up a 5-year program with the cooperation of experts from the Ministry of Plan and Budget and from the cultural section [not further specified].

We prepared this plan and presented it to the Plan and Budget Organization, and they included parts of that plan in their 5-year plan. There are many details regarding that plan, but I should refer to only one or two points in connection with it.

The first point is that on the occasion of Government Week, the change of the government, and Planning and Reconstruction Week, the officials from the Plan and Budget Organization of the country and the radio and TV officials have spoken on the media and made certain remarks about former programs and future programs. One of the points that has been made is that in the past the officials, or some of the officials, did not believe in making any plans or had little interest in doing so. The next point is that the resources which were allocated for the implementation of the 5-year plan—those resources could not have been allocated [as heard]. The first point which has been made was not true of the Voice and Vision. The officials and managers of the Voice and Vision Organization had great faith in programming right from the start. This is why we prepared an extensive, comprehensive, and accurate plan, clearly setting out our needs for foreign exchange in rials, as well as for equipment needed. We presented the plan at that time to the Plan and Budget Ministry, or Plan and Budget Organization as it was then, and it was included in their plan. However, in our organization the major reason for our difficulties and the reason why the plan was not implemented lies in the second criticism; namely, the none of the resources which had been planned for in rials or in foreign currency or in human resources or equipment were provided as was envisaged. To the extent that resources were made available, our 5-year programs became successful and were implemented, and we acted in accordance with them. For the second phase, we have also made some plans. I will mention very briefly some of the points of our programs.

In view of the number of channels and the coverage they provide, we have envisaged two television and two radio channels; that is, two television and two radio networks. There is one common and general channel which broadcasts 24 hours on radio, and in television it is our first channel of the Vision which at the moment broadcasts 8 hours of programs. It is envisaged that by the end of the 5-year plan its broadcasts will increase to 12 hours. As far as coverage is concerned, it will cover nearly 90 percent of the population of the country. The transmitters and equipment which are needed have been provided for in detail in the plan. The second channel is a provincial network which will cover the provinces and will provide for local needs from an educational or political point of view. These two channels should, as far

as radio is concerned, provide almost total geographic coverage for the whole country.

Let me make the point that at the moment, when you are travelling in your car, after a certain distance on the roads, the radio stations cannot be received. However, in cities, villages, and populated areas, the radio can be received almost everywhere. Regarding television, on the first channel we have 83 or 84 per cent population coverage, and about 67 per cent coverage with the second channel. However, in radio, with [words indistinct] we have 96 percent population coverage; but it is different as far as geographic coverage is concerned. At certain distances [from towns] where the populationis sparse, it has not a goal of the organization [to provide coverage]. Of course, it has been a goal, but subject to the limitation of capabilities. At certain distances, radio programs cannot be received. In the fifth plan we have provided for 100 percent geographic cover for radio broadcasts, so that we may have no difficulty with regard to geographic cover for radio transmission throughout the country.

In the programs it has been envisaged that as far as hours of transmission on television is concerned, we increase the entertainment programs, increase domestic production of television programs, to reduce repeat programs. When we increase the output of new programs then the ratio of repeats in the overall programs must come down. These are among the points which have been provided for. Now if you have any specific questions I will reply to them point by point. [passage omitted]

[Correspondent] Excellency Hashemi, with your permission I would like to raise a question. You know that changes made in the Constitution with regard to the organization of radio and television are bound to bring about alterations in the administration of radio and television. Please give us explanations on these points.

[Hashemi] In the letter of appointment by the leader, there was a passage on the preparation of the law for administraiton of radio and television. The leader decreed that I should as soon as possible prepare the bill and submit it to the Majlis through the cabinet. I have appointed a group from the experts of the organization. I did so with full attention to specific characteristics of our organization as well as points provided in the Constitutional Law. They are to put these together to draft a bill for submission to the Majlis through the cabinet. God willing, within the next week or so the bill will be delivered to the cabinet.

[Correspondent] Thank you. There are some telephone calls from Tehran and the provinces. First, they have criticized the short supply of scientific programs on television; they say that television must be a university for those interested in science and so they have asked for an increase in such programs. A viewer in Mahallat has asked why the technical quality of television is so inferior. For the past 2 weeks they could not pick up television pictures. They want an improvement in the quality of technical work of the television.

[Hashemi] As to the first question: The ratio of programs on science is not low. I must say that the radio-television have general audiences; they address all the strata. The ratio of programs are devised in proportion to the nature of our audiences. Therefore, the share considered for science programs, which I think is 6 to 7 per cent of all the programs of radio and television, is considered to be a certain proportion which has due regard to other needs of the society. I believe the proportion of six to seven per cent is not low. It may not however satisfy all those who are interested in such programs.

As to the problem in Mahallat, which a viewer has raised, I must say that for about a week the transmitter of the television channel of Mahallat has been destroyed. It has been the target of destruction. The technical cadres of the organization are making efforts to reconstruct it. God willing, it will be rebuilt and brought back to service. We expect that the security officials of Mahallat could make better efforts to safeguard in a better manner the safety of such equipment. They must not allow such assets to be targets for destruction. [passage omitted]

[Hashemi] I would like to give figures of the Voice and Vision's budget in the year 57 [Iranian year ending 20 March 1979] as well as the year 79 [Iranian year ending 20 March 1989]. I give these two figures [for comparison]. In the year 57 the budget approved for radio and television totalled 39 billion rials. This was allocated under three categories: budget for expansion and current expenditure was 18.5 billion rials, budget for capital investment was above 16 billion rials, and customs and excises amounted to 4.5 billion rials making a bit more than 39 billion rials in total. The same budget in 67 was this: customs was 1.5 billion, expansion and current expenditure was 20 billion rials or so, and capital investment [figure indistinct]. The grand total amounts to a little less than 26 billion rials. You see that in the year 67, without taking account of increases which radio and television received from other development funds, the total budget was less by 13 billion rials compared with the year 57. Now if we take into consideration other factors such as inflation, obviously the budget of radio and television is very low. [passage omitted]

The budget is one factor. Questions were raised as to whether we are short of suitable programs; that is a difficulty. We know that programs which are suitable for the sacred regime of the Islamic Republic are very few in the world. Such programs are indeed not produced abroad. And at home our capability is not yet so strong as to produce sufficient cinema films which, after passing their time on big screen, can be screened by the television. [passage omitted]

[Correspondent, addressing unidentified person] We have enough time if you want to ask any questions of His Excellency Mr Hashemi.

[Unidentified person] I congratulate his appointment by the leader of the revolution. I ask him to pay more attention to the programs of the Voice and Vision, and as the general director, to present a model appropriate for an Islamic life to our families. I think the Voice and Vision has not been able to present an appropriate model. I ask His Excellency Mr Hashemi to ask other officials of the Voice and Vision to be more active in that way.

[Correspondent] Fine, we will not take more of your time. Thank you. God bless.

[Unidentified person] Thank you.

[Correspondent] Thank you to your dear listener and also to our reporter. Your Excellency, as you heard there were some suggestions on improving the programs and also there were some remarks about making the programs of the Voice and Vision more varied. Please tell us what plans you have for more variety in the programs. You mentioned this briefly at the beginning. If you like to elabroate please carry on.

[Hashemi] I think the brother who expressed his views of the programs and his expectations of the organization was right. The presentation of a model for the growth of the society to the families is a very just expectation. It is among the obligations of the Voice and Vision. I ask right from this platform that all my colleagues work sincerely on all issues raised and in particular in presentation of the model. We have many models and personalities in Islam whose lives can be the best kind of model for us and for Muslims. I ask them to work on their lives and to present their lives in focus which will be very effective. So, I ask from my colleagues and stress that they pay more attention to those points.

About having more variety in the programs, I fear that once I start, you will come and cut me off and say there are other questions. As a general point, I say that one of the goals of the Voice and Vision is to encourage programs whose colloquial speech bring a smile to the lips of our compatriots, the viewers, and the listeners. We should seriously refrain from vulgarity and absurdity. If our programs are to be funny or make people a bit cheerful, then they should be programs do so with morality and without absurdity, also carry on with those goals. [passage omitted]

## Bank Governor, Finance Minister on Banking Week

*LD0709162189 Tehran IRNA in English 1510 GMT 7 Sep 89*

[Text] Tehran, Sept. 7, IRNA—People's deposits in banks grew by 15.2 percent from 1979 through the end of the last Iranian year (March 20 1989), while cash flow has had a growth of 15.2 percent in the light of the implementation of the Islamic banking system in Iran.

Announcing the above here today, governor of the Central Bank Majid Qasemi said however, some were concerned over the success of this system when it was approved in 1979, and believed that people might withdraw their money from the banks.

Qasemi who was speaking on the occasion of the interest-free banking week (1-7 September) said the country's oil revenues reduced over the last years of the imposed war resulting in a budget deficit.

"Some 50 percent of the budget's expenditures faced deficit in last year alone, which was compensated through borrowings from the banks," Qasemi said.

He also noted that the share of facilities granted by the banks has increased from 63.7 percent in the previous year to 75.3 percent this year.

Meanwhile, new Economic Affairs and Finance Minister Mohsen Nurbakhsh said the Islamic banking system has now been recognised in the world, adding "we should be able to remove the weak points of this system, and present it as a model to other countries."

On the future monetary policies Nourbakhsh said these policies are expected to be approved by the end of the current year in order to help the country take quicker steps towards economic balance, he said.

## Majlis Deputies' Elections Set for 15 Dec

*LD0709174489 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1630 GMT 7 Sep 89*

[Excerpts] The date for staging the midterm elections for the Islamic Consultative Assembly in six constituencies was announced in a statement issued by Interior Minister 'Abdollah Nuri. The statement reads as follows:

In the name of the Almighty. It is announced to the public that with the Ministry of Interior having announced its readiness, and also with the approval of the honorable Council of Guardians, the mid-term elections of the third round of the Islamic Consultative Assembly in Tehran constituencies for election of four [as heard] deputies—Kerman, one deputy; Kashan, one deputy; Kurd Kuy and Torkaman, one deputy; Kuhdasht and Chegeny, one deputy; and Karaj, one deputy—will be held on Friday, 15 December. [passage omitted]

[Signed] Abdollah Nuri, Minister of Interior
[Dated] 7 September 1989

## Qom Ground Satellite Station Becomes Operational

*NC0709114089 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 0330 GMT 7 Sep 89*

[Text] The Qom ground satellite station was inaugurated and become operational yesterday afternoon. With the operation of this station, the quality of the picture of programs on the second network of the Vision of the Islamic Repulbic of Iran in Qom will improve.

The Central News Unit reports that this 50-watt satellite television transmitter was installed by the technical unit of the Vision of the Islamic Republic of Iran, and residents in Qom and in surrounding villages can now view the programs of network two of the Vision of the Islamic Republic of Iran on Channel 10.

### Drug Arrests, Seizures in Mashhad Noted

*LD0709114289 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 0730 GMT 7 Sep 89*

[Text] According to report from Mashhad's Central News Unit, through the efforts of the guards of the Islamic Revolution Committee of Khorasan Province, 56 drug addicts and 13 narcotics smugglers and distributors have been arrested. Altogether 12 kg of opium, more than 500 grams of heroin, 28,200 rials in cash, and 2 vehicles were seized.

### Islamic Committees Guards Seize Opium Residue

*LD0709195789 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1700 GMT 7 Sep 89*

[Text] The alacrity and efforts of the guards of the Islamic Revolutionary Committees of Yazd-Kerman region resulted in the discovery and seizure of 23.5 kilos of opium residue, in the course of the inspection of passing vehicles. According to a Central News Unit report, 20 kilos of this residue was packaged in tins of fruit, and in this connection, four people were arrested and handed over to the judicial authorities of the province.

### Radicals 'Intent' on Forming Political Party

*TA0709173389 (Clandestine) Iran's Flag of Freedom Radio in Persian 0330 GMT 7 Sep 89*

[Text] We have learned that the regime's hardliners, who these days have rallied around Ahmad Khomeyni through the (?initiative) of 'Ali Akbar Mohtashemi and Mir Hoseyn Musavi, are intent on officially establishing a new party and presenting themselves as the true heirs of Ruhollah Khomeyni's ideology. These individuals now unofficially maintain constant contact, and Ahmad Khomeyni also takes part in their meetings. With the formation of this party, the power struggle in the ruling circle will enter into new phase.

### Increase in Soviet Diplomatic, Civilian Presence

*TA0709173689 (Clandestine) Iran's Flag of Freedom Radio in Persian 0330 GMT 7 Sep 89*

[Text] According to information which we have received, the number of Soviet nationals in Iran, especially in Tehran, has increased considerably in recent months. The coming and going of cars with diplomatic plates belonging to the Soviet Embassy, and Soviet nationals in Tehran restaurants has grown so much that this has drawn the attention of ordinary pedestrians.

## Pakistan

### Yaqub Khan Interview on Regional Issues Cited

*BK3009119289 Islamabad Domestic Service in Urdu 1500 GMT 7 Sep 89*

[Text] Foreign Minister Sahabzada Yaqub Khan has accused Kabul regime of impeding a peaceful solution to the Afghan dispute by using lethal, modern weapons provided by the Soviet Union. In an interview with BBC he said the people of Afghanistan will not tolerate these (?crimes) in their country. He has described the latest contacts with Iran in light of the new developments in Afghanistan as extremely significant.

### Officials Praise Bhutto, Criticize Punjab Chief

*BK0809040089 Islamabad Domestic Service in Urdu 1500 GMT 7 Sep 89*

[Text] Aftab Ahmad Khan Sherpao, the North-West Frontier Province [NWFP] chief minister, speaking after the prime minister's address at the historic rally at Liaqatbagh [in Rawalpindi] last night, said that the Pashtuns have full confidence in Benazir Bhutto's leadership. The people of NWFP have made great sacrifices for the sake of the country and democracy, and they are always ready to make any sacrifice that the prime minister asks for. Pashtuns are proud of their role, their honesty, and their politeness, and they cannot compromise with people seeking selfish interests.

Sherpao criticized Punjab Chief Minister Nawaz Sharif for offering large sums of money to provincial assembly members in a bid to dissolve the People's Party government in NWFP. He said that Sharif failed to buy even a single member through such attempts. The NWFP chief minister said that Nawaz Sharif is accusing the federal government of not providing funds to the Punjab government, but it is strange that he himself is making offers of millions of rupees for his own interests.

Fakhr Zaman, the chief of the People's Party in Punjab, has said that the historic rally yesterday has proved that people of Punjab have full confidence in the People's Party and Prime Minister Benazir Bhutto. Addressing a news conference in Rawalpindi this afternoon, he said that the people of Punjab consider the prime minister a symbol of unity and a guarantee for the stability of the federation. He criticized the Punjab chief minister for implicating People's Party members and workers in baseless litigations. The provincial police and administration, as he put it, are being misused to enhance the prestige of one person and to protect his leadership. He announced that a massive rally will be held in Lahore on 30 November in connection with the foundation day of the Pakistan People's Party.

## Sri Lanka

### Ranatunga Notes Improvement in Security Situation

*BK0709103289 Hong Kong AFP in English 0941 GMT 7 Sep 89*

[Text] Colombo, Sept 7 (AFP)—The security situation in strife-torn Sri Lanka has seen a "tremendous improvement" in the past week, a top general said here Thursday [7 September] as 28 more people were killed in political violence across the island.

General Cyril Ranatunga, secretary to the State Ministry of Defence, said that on-going military operations restricted the movement of subversives, an official term for the Sinhalese rebel group Janatha Vimukthi Peramuna (JVP, or People's Liberation Front).

"There are less killings. There is a tremendous improvement in the security situation. It is because we have been very firm and arrested many. We have not given them freedom to move about as before," he told reporters here.

A government statement, issued at the weekly cabinet press briefing, said 26 people had died in the past 24 hours while officials said two soldiers died in a landmine blast in Eastern Province Thursday.

The two soldiers on a foot patrol were blown up in Morawewa area and three colleagues were seriously wounded, officials said. It was not immediately clear who was responsible for the attack.

Gen. Ranatunga said more than 30 houses belonging to security personnel had been torched by subversives as part of their threat against police and soldiers to leave their jobs or risk having their families attacked. He strongly denied reports that security forces had taken retaliatory action and said "some elements" were taking advantage of the situation to settle private grudges. "By and by, we will get them all," he said.

There have been increasing reports of bodies of young men floating down rivers and burning on piles of rubber tyres alongside main highways. Residents have blamed pro-government vigilantes hounding JVP activists.

The general said 3,500 suspected subversives were under detention and more than 150 had surrendered to security forces and the government was drawing up a rehabilitation plan for them.

The government statement said a man was killed when a bomb he was trying to lob at a police vehicle exploded prematurely in Colombo's Bambalapitiya area Wednesday night.

Security forces found 10 unidentified bodies in southern Ratnapura area, the statement said. It gave no further details of the incident.

The government said subversives had killed 11 civilians in the past 24 hours and during the same period 75 suspected subversives had been taken in for questioning.

Subversives also killed a former security guard, a village official and a relative and a farmer in separate incidents during the same period, the statement added.

Cabinet Spokesman and Industries Minister Ranil Wickremesinghe said President Ranasinghe Premadasa had initiated the creation of rehabilitation centres for youths detained under emergency laws for involvement in subversive activities.

"Initially we will have two or three centres. But we will expand as the numbers increase," Mr. Wickremesinghe said.

The JVP is leading a violent campaign to overthrow the government and has been accused of killing over 4,000 people in the past two years.

In 1971, the Sinhalese radical group led a bloody insurrection which was put down with the loss of at least 10,000 lives.